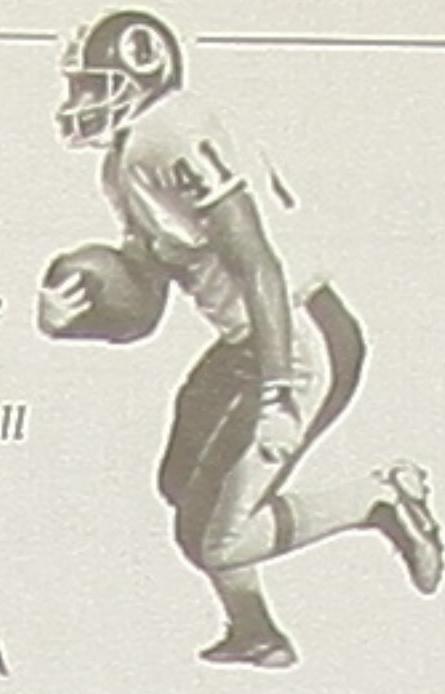


James Thrash and Richard Jordan have joined Rod Smith in the National Football League, and already Thrash is making his presence known.....page 10A



CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

Criminal justice ready for move

By NICK PARKER
MANAGING EDITOR

After borrowing classrooms and auditoriums from other buildings around campus, the faculty, staff, and students of Missouri Southern's criminal justice department are anxiously awaiting the completion of a new addition to the Anderson Justice Center.

Ground-breaking for the project was held in October 1996.

Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president, said the center has been

cramped for so long and the students and faculty are due for some extra space.

He expects final completion of the project by the end of the fall semester.

"We had a meeting last week, and they shifted it (the classrooms) back a little bit to the middle of November," Tiede said. "The multi-purpose room and the auditorium will be done Dec. 15."

Robert Terry, head of the criminal justice department, said the new space will be advantageous to the pro-

grams offered in the criminal justice building.

"In the past we have had to offer classes in other buildings as well as hold seminars in the Matthews Hall auditorium," Terry said. "Seminars have between 200 and 300 people, and the new auditoriums can handle approximately 300 people. We will have a much larger computer lab and a new student lounge."

He said the department is planning to use the new classrooms in the spring semester.

"One of the new classrooms will

allow us to drive in a police car or ambulance," Terry said. "A new class we plan to offer on automobile searches will allow us to do that right in the classroom."

James McMillian, junior criminal justice major, is looking forward to the new training features made possible.

"We're going to get better training, especially with the new advanced shooting system," McMillian said. "In a typical shooting range, you don't get to practice situations. This new system allows us to be placed in a number of tactical situations." □



TIM WILSON/The Chart
Workers are putting the finishing touches on the multi-million dollar expansion to the Mills Anderson Criminal Justice Center.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Overseas study funds coming

Money for both faculty, students

By TAMMY SPICER
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

If you start asking students and faculty where they went on summer vacation this year, don't be surprised if you hear London, Hong Kong, and Mexico. Those are just some of the places visited as part of Missouri Southern's international mission.

"We are striving to internationalize the campus," said Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs. "Over time, we hope eventually everyone will have an opportunity to travel as part of their education here at Southern."

The travels this summer are only the beginning, explained Bitterbaum. There will be funding to support international travel for faculty and students to travel over the next year, he said.

Accurate amounts of funding dollars will not be available until later this month, according to Richard Massa, director of the institute for international studies.

"I think it is really important for faculty to travel," said Dr. Barbara Box, director of the nursing department, who spent several weeks in Mexico this summer. "It's very hard to relate to students who travel, and you can bring so much more to the curriculum with experiences."

The international mission is funded by the state of Missouri as a mission enhancement program. Since the program's inception, Southern has received \$1.3 million to

— Please turn to
TRAVEL, Page 11A

NEW ADDITIONS

Field house of dreams

Regents add new gym, cafeteria to campus

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Since 1983 the Missouri Southern athletic department has been asking for more space.

After 14 years it's finally on the way. The construction of a new field house to sit adjacent to Young Gymnasium was approved by Southern's Board of Regents during its June

meeting. Combined with the construction of a new cafeteria to set atop the new Student Life Center, the projects will cost approximately \$7.5 million.

Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president,

This is the same type of financing we used for the dorms," Tiede said.

Tiede also said the College is looking for some sizable donations to help with the costs.

"A little over a year ago the Board toured the gym and charged us to come up with a plan to alleviate the crowded conditions," Tiede said.

For years, coaches have had to work out schedules to use the gym.

"There is no off-season in modern athletics," Frazier said. "There won't be any problem using that space. Hopefully we'll have more intramurals. We'll have less 6 a.m. practices and 8 p.m. practices."

More than 50 students major in kinesiology, and Frazier counts 317 student-athletes on the various rosters. Kinesiology supports 21 faculty members as well, which includes the coaching staff.

Since an existing parking lot is the site for the field house, Tiede said there are plans to bring in a new lot after the field house is built.

"We're going to try to replace the parking lot back behind," Tiede said. "We started filling a lot already."



The planned field house will seat twice as many spectators than Young Gym. Special to The Chart

said preliminary planning estimates the cost for the cafeteria to be at \$2.2 million, while the field house should run the College \$5.2 million.

"This is long overdue," said Jim Frazier, men's athletic director. "I know there's been an attitude that we need it, but there wasn't a commitment."

The commitment that Frazier had been look-

ing for came when the Regents accepted a proposal from A.G. Edwards and Sons to serve as the financial adviser on the project. Bonds will be used to generate the money for the project. The College has been authorized to seek up to \$8 million in bonds.

— Please turn to



Special to The Chart
A second floor will be added to the Student Life Center to house a cafeteria that was a part of the original plans for the building.

BOOKSTORE

Shopping Around

Hastings offers many of Southern's texts.

How to Write Psychology Papers:
Southern — \$14.20
Hastings — \$14.50
Simon & Schuster's Handbook for Writers:
Southern — \$30.37
Hastings — \$25.87
Beowulf:
Southern — \$4.99
Hastings — \$3.59

PHYSICAL PLANT

It doesn't pay to be patient when it comes to finding parking space

By TAMMY SPICER
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

When Alison McDonald, a freshman nursing major, arrived at Missouri Southern for her first

college class, she wanted everything to go smoothly.

After circling the parking lot several times looking for any available spot, she finally headed to the gravel lot and found one. From there she walked to Matthews

Hall only to find herself late for her class. She sat down in the hallway and tried to pull herself together for her second class.

McDonald hasn't been alone in her search for a parking spot this semester. With the lots overflowing, students have

been parking everywhere, including faculty lots.

Because everyone is trying to get settled in, campus security has been more relaxed, but things will tighten up soon, explained Bill Boyer, chief of security.

Many students look for better bargains at local used book stores or compare prices for new books at retail bookstores.

"We generally don't deal with textbooks, but we do have things like classic novels," said David Nethery of The Book Barn. "The books are categorized in groupings that make it fairly easy to search for a given book."

A price comparison of new books at Hastings revealed potential savings on some books, but books that have to be special ordered often take two weeks to receive. □

"I don't think there are enough parking spots," said Shawn McGrew, sophomore education major. "It used to be that if you

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What's Inside



SECTION B:

Two reporters chronicle the days before and after the return of Hong Kong's sovereignty to China and how that affects everyone on the planet.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

Two Missouri Southern professors toured Russia and brought back memories that will last both of them a lifetime.....page 12A

THE CHART

SECOND FRONT

Mission responsibilities change hands

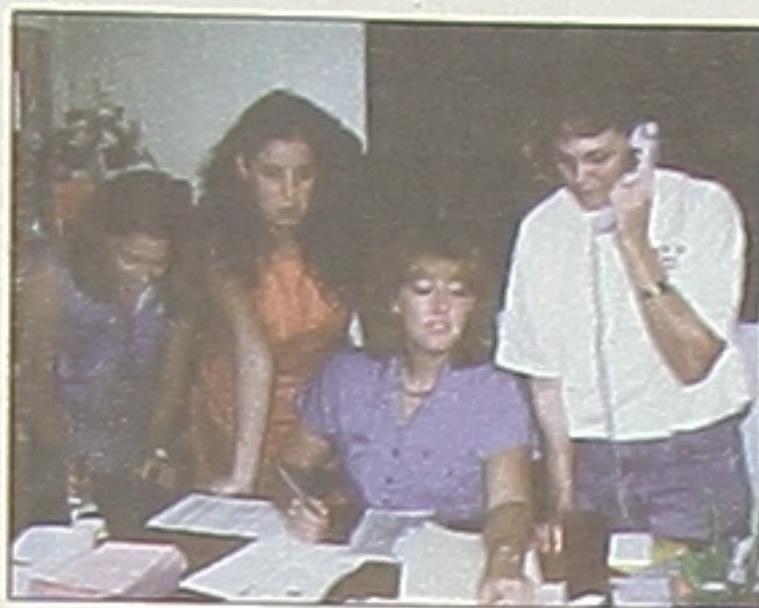
By GINNY DUMOND
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Over the summer, Missouri Southern made an administrative decision to transfer one of the international mission's responsibilities from one person with many titles to another.

Nadine Schmidt, assistant to the vice president for academic affairs, is also the College's grant writer and handles foreign faculty and J-1 category international students.

This summer, the duties of adviser to international students transferred from Schmidt to Deb Gipson, coordinator of student housing and the Student Life Center.

STUDENT SENATE



Jill Bever, secretary (left), joins fellow officers Sandy Fisk, vicepresident, Eden Aber, president, and Melanie Spalding, treasurer.

'Chicket' dominates spotlight

By AARON DESLATTE
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With the start of a new academic year and Student Senate elections on the horizon, public interest would traditionally be focused on this year's nominees.

But for the time being, Missouri Southern's new Student Senate officers will also share the spotlight.

For the first time in the history of Southern's Student Senate, all four seats will be filled by females. However, according to President Eden Aber, "gender will not be an issue."

"Naturally, a lot of people are apprehensive," she said. "Once they see it's not going to make much of a difference, they'll realize we're out to do our job. We're not going to make any huge changes."

Vice president Sandy Fisk shares the sentiment but admits the new officers will be under public scrutiny more so than in previous years.

"A lot of people are saying that there are going to be all kinds of dramatic problems, but I think it will be just like any other year," Fisk said.

"There is pressure on us to prove that the new officers can have a successful Student Senate. I think we're going to be just as capable as any other four officers have been. It will be just like any other year."

Treasurer Melanie Spalding and secretary Jill Bever round out the incoming executive team, which was referred to as the "chicket" during last year's voting.

With Student Senate elections to be held Tuesday and Wednesday, Senate officers are expecting the gender issue to be quickly overshadowed by an anticipated boost in voter turnout and an increasing student body influence on Senate goals — both of which can be partially attributed to greater freshmen involvement than in previous years.

"This year there's a lot more [freshmen] interest in Student Senate," Fisk said. "I think the word is getting out that there is a student government people can get involved with."

"We're going to rely on students and the senators to give us new ideas," Aber said. "We don't want to base [policy making] just on our goals."

"We want to be more student-body [oriented]."

Fisk says one goal for this year's administration is to improve interaction and communication lines within the Senate.

"We're concerned about having more activities for the senators to get to know each other on a social level," she said.

"I think the freshmen will have a big turnout," said Aber, who also attributes the increase in freshmen interest to an added emphasis on electioneering. "We have really stressed the point that we need them."

"The actual turnover has only happened in the last couple of months, but it has been in planning since last spring," Gipson said.

Schmidt said she always thought the duties should be given to someone more directly involved with students.

"Since I came here, I thought the position of international student advising would be better done by a person in student services," she said. "We thought the more logical place would be with Deb."

Though this responsibility has been lifted from her, Schmidt is certain she will still have enough to do.

"In my job I do about five different things," she said, "and I'm still handling

foreign faculty and the J-1 students [which includes the International Student Exchange Program]."

Schmidt thinks Gipson will be successful in the position.

"I think Deb's going to do really well with the students," she said. "She has a really good rapport with them."

Gipson met with the students for the first time at student orientation the first day of classes.

"What an enjoyable group of young people," she said.

Like Schmidt, Gipson has a full load of work, but is enjoying this opportunity.

"I've got a lot on my plate, but I love a challenge," Gipson said. "Getting to know

the personalities involved and the individuals is wonderful."

Having traveled throughout most of western Europe, Gipson said she has a special interest in getting to know the international students on a one-on-one basis.

"I have so enjoyed my travels," she said.

"This is an interesting way for me to meet people from various countries and get to know more than their name and nationality."

"It makes me realize what an ambassador for the U.S. we are when we go abroad."

Her actual job description lends itself to personal contact with students.

"When any problems come up, my field is to find a resource or direction in which to send them," Gipson said.

STUDENT LIFE BEAT

“... a focal point for all the fans to identify with the institution.”

Creating an identity

Lion, Lady Lion help fans, students, community relate to College

By NICK PARKER
MANAGING EDITOR

Nebraska, Cornhuskers; Michigan, Wolverines; Notre Dame, Fighting Irish; and Missouri Southern, Lions.

Mascots often become the most common way of identifying with colleges.

For Southern, this identity began in the late 1930s when Joplin Junior College adopted the "Lion" as its official mascot. Sometime in the 1940s, the Downtown Lions Club donated a stuffed lion cub to the College. Lloyd Mink, a sports writer on the 1951-52 *Chart* staff who found the cub stored away and collecting dust, demanded to know why it wasn't displayed where everyone could see it.

Mink also initiated a contest, sponsored by *The Chart*, to name the cub. Students and instructors were requested to submit names on ballots printed in the paper, and "Jo Juco" was selected.

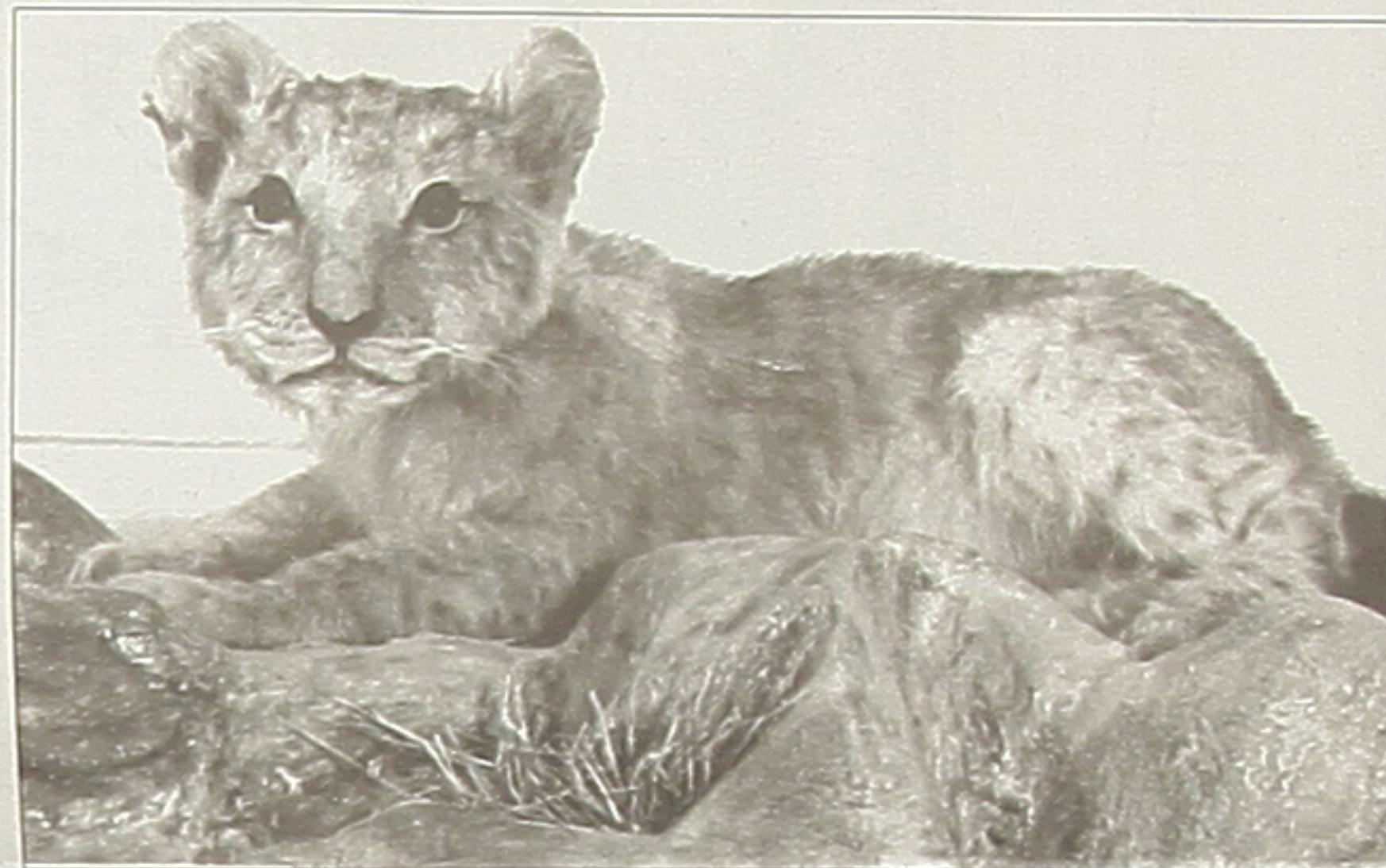
Since then, Joplin Junior College has moved twice, ending its journey at its present location and evolved into a four-year state college. The Lion has also gone through changes of its own, from the small stuffed figure of Jo Juco to the live-action Lion and Lady Lion of today.

Jim Frazier, men's athletic director, and Sallie Beard, women's athletic director, both stressed the ability of a mascot to relate to the fans.

"The youth enjoy it as much as anybody," Frazier said. "It really is a focal point for all the fans to identify with the institution. The mascot can mix with the fans, the band, and the cheerleaders; it's an integral part of the team."

"The mascot really gives our teams and school an identity," Beard said. "The mascot can do things a person can't. They can go out and do some antics to loosen up the crowd, the things cheerleaders and players can't do."

The current whereabouts of Jo Juco are unknown. Jim Maupin, former dean of technology, said



"Jo Juco" received his name in a contest held by *The Chart* in 1952. The Lion was donated to Joplin Junior College in the 1940's. The whereabouts of "JO JUCO" are currently unknown.

the stuffed cub disappeared in the move to the current campus in 1967.

Autumn Lawrence, a 1997 Southern graduate, is gearing up for her fourth year as the

Student Life Beat

These special feature stories are designed specifically for you—the student. If you have story suggestions please call 625-9311.

In recent years the Missouri Southern mascot has gone to a more fierce and modern look with its costuming.

Special to The Chart



Special to The Chart

CAMPUS LIFE

Females feel brunt of residence hall woes

By GINNY DUMOND
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

An "odd situation" has resulted in the Missouri Southern campus having more female students than it can handle for the second year in a row.

When the semester began, there were around 20 on-campus apartments holding five women instead of the standard four.

"Now we're down to 15," said Deb Gipson, coordinator of student housing. "We view that as a temporary situation, because there is always an attrition rate. As soon as we have the room to move that fifth person out, we will."

Part of the problem stems from the sizes of the rooms in the residence halls housing

both the male and female students.

"McCormick Hall, which is traditionally the women's dorm, is a floor shorter than Blaine Hall, traditionally the men's dorm," Gipson said. "That means McCormick holds 100 less women."

With 64 apartments available, 46 are occupied by women.

"This is kind of a good news/bad news situation for the guys," Gipson said.

The absolute highest capacity for on-campus living is 600 students, putting five in each of the apartments. Right now there are approximately 530 students.

Gipson said there is little chance the College will decide to begin housing the women in Blaine and men in McCormick to try to curb the problem in coming years.



TIM WILSON / The Chart
Overcrowding in Southern's dorms has become an all-to-common occurrence.

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Five students graduate with honors after summer

At the conclusion of the summer class session, 65 Missouri Southern students completed program requirements for graduation.

Five students graduated with honors.

Linda Longstreth, Walker, graduated summa cum laude with a grade-point average of 3.90 or above.

Susan Allen, Nathaniel Anderson, and Beth Hinman, all of Joplin, earned magna cum laude honors with GPAs of 3.80 to 3.89.

Associate degree recipient Gary James McHugh, Gilbertsville, Pa., earned third honors with a GPA from 3.70 to 3.79.

Management institute sponsors workshops

The Management Development Institute at Missouri Southern is sponsoring several business and computer workshops in September.

A free "Pre-Business Workshop" will be offered from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 19 in Matthews Hall Room 102. This workshop will provide practical knowledge about how to evaluate the feasibility of business ideas, licensing requirements, demographic trends, financial projections, target markets, business plans, and financing options.

A seminar covering issues and challenges associated with bringing a new product to market will be offered from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 18 in Matthews Hall Room 204. Cost of this seminar is \$35.

The seminar "Protecting, Pricing & Marketing a New Product" will cover issues such as protecting the idea, patenting, copyright, and trademarks.

"Eliminating Production Bottlenecks Using Theory of Constraints" is the title of a seminar from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 25 in Matthews Hall Room 108.

Computer workshops in September include "Introduction to Computers" on Saturday; "Introduction to Windows 95" on Saturday, Sept. 13; "Introduction to Microsoft Word for Windows" on Saturday, Sept. 20; and "Quickbooks for Windows" on Saturday, Sept. 27.

For additional information or to register, persons may contact (417) 625-3128. Class size is limited and early registrations are recommended.

Investment programs to begin airing on KGCS

A new series of "Investment Basics" programs will begin airing this fall on Missouri Southern Television (KGCS).

The programs feature certified financial planner Frank Rook presenting information on a wide variety of investment topics. They range from the fundamentals of investing to more detailed information such as managing retirement plan distributions.

The programs may be seen on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6:30 p.m. on KGCS, cable channel 7 in Joplin and Webb City and UHF channel 57.

Southern news show focuses on incubator

Joplin's first small business incubator is the focus of "Newsmakers," which will air at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18 on public television station KOZJ, channel 26.

Host Judy Stiles discusses the program with Blanche McKee and Jim Krudwig, representatives from the Enterprise Center Board, which oversees the small business incubator.

The discussion focuses on how incubators are designed to help new businesses and how the program will operate in Joplin.

PUBLIC FORUM

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Uncle Sam, Jack Daniels, and my whale

Never in my life have I felt so isolated and downright out of it than the first day of classes this year.

It wasn't just any first day of school, it was my first day of school as a NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT. It was like going back to grade school and being held back. There was no one on campus whom I could remotely relate with, it seemed. Everyone

was dressed in shorts, T-shirts, sandals — the typical summer garb. I, on the other hand, was sporting slacks, a starched dress shirt, a tie, and uncomfortable shoes.

I looked like an instructor. People were asking me for help in realigning their schedules. Someone actually thought I was her Spanish teacher. Let's set the record straight. No hablo español.

It suddenly struck me that my youth was going with the summer months. I really was heading toward adulthood now.

The determining factor of adulthood, which truly can't be measured in years, is symbolically 18 years old when you can register with selective service.

Or, for some, it's 21 years old when that first bottle of Jack Daniels can be swilled without any legal consequences. For me, it was this 24th year of my life when I could go to the financial aid office and fill out the paper work without calling mom and dad for their tax return information.

It's a rite of passage. Think about it. The only milestone left in the aging process is 25, when you can rent a car anywhere.

I truly felt awkward walking to class. Suddenly the halls are too loud, and I can't figure out what the attraction to dying hair various shades of green is. Truth be told, I just didn't understand why I was coming back.

I mean, a degree is a degree is a degree. In my line of work, it's nice to have a degree, but it's the experience more than anything else that lands you the job.

I've got a job, and I probably could've gotten a full-time job had I not come back to school. I'm actually jeopardizing my job by coming back to school.

So why do it? Because something deep inside me says I want a degree. Something else says I need the degree.

I've invested years in pursuit of this elusive slip of paper. My degree has become my Moby Dick. I'm like Ahab stretching the limits of human endurance for something that may gain me nothing.

I hold onto the very thread of my youth by not having a degree. It's like crossing a cavern. I can jump to the other side, but if I do so, I can never go back.

And because the cavern is far too wide for me to hold onto both ends, something has got to give. Eventually it's going to be my youth. I know that everyone knows that.

It's strange thinking about what I'm going to miss the most about being a kid.

Right off the top of my head, I think I'm going to miss not getting a tattoo the most.

How frivolous can that be? I'm getting old, old in the sense like wine and cheese, I hope.

As my grandma once quipped at my fifth birthday party, "Jakey's all grown up." □

THE CHART

J.L. Griffin
Editor-In-Chief
Tammy Spicer Executive Editor
Nick Parker Managing Editor

SPJ — The Nation's Best Non-Daily Collegiate Newspaper (1995, 1996)
ACP Pacemaker Finalist (1982, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1994)
MCMA — "Best in State" (1993-94, 1996-97)

The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May, by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty, or the student body.

Friday, September 5, 1997

IN PERSPECTIVE

And it keeps getting better all the time

Missouri Southern has a bright future. There are a number of reasons for that conclusion. Let's look at just a few.

We have a president who is providing visionary leadership for the College. Over the last 15 years, Julio Leon has demonstrated his leadership capability and management skills. He has earned the respect of residents in the four-state area, as well as his peers in higher education.

His passion for the success of Missouri Southern is evident to everyone who has met him. Vision, passion, and good management skills are the necessary attributes of our outstanding leader.

We have an excellent faculty dedicated to teaching. Small classes with interaction between students and teachers provide for an excellent learning environment. I continue to be impressed with the quality of Missouri Southern's faculty.

The emphasis on our international mission will broaden the horizon, not only for our students, but also for the faculty. We live in a small world, and it is important to expand our thinking to a world-wide basis.

The quality of Missouri Southern students and alumni is another reason our college has a bright future. The combination of good students and a strong learning environment provides a foundation for success, and this is evident as we see our alumni take on increased responsibility in a number of important areas.

Missouri Southern has a beautiful campus.

The buildings are relatively new and have been well maintained. We continue to expand the physical facilities as the needs arise. We have nearly \$20 million in construction either underway or that will be completed in the relatively near future.

The new addition to the Criminal Justice Center will be completed in time for next semester.

In addition, the Regents have made a commitment to spend \$7.2 million to build two new facilities that are very much needed.

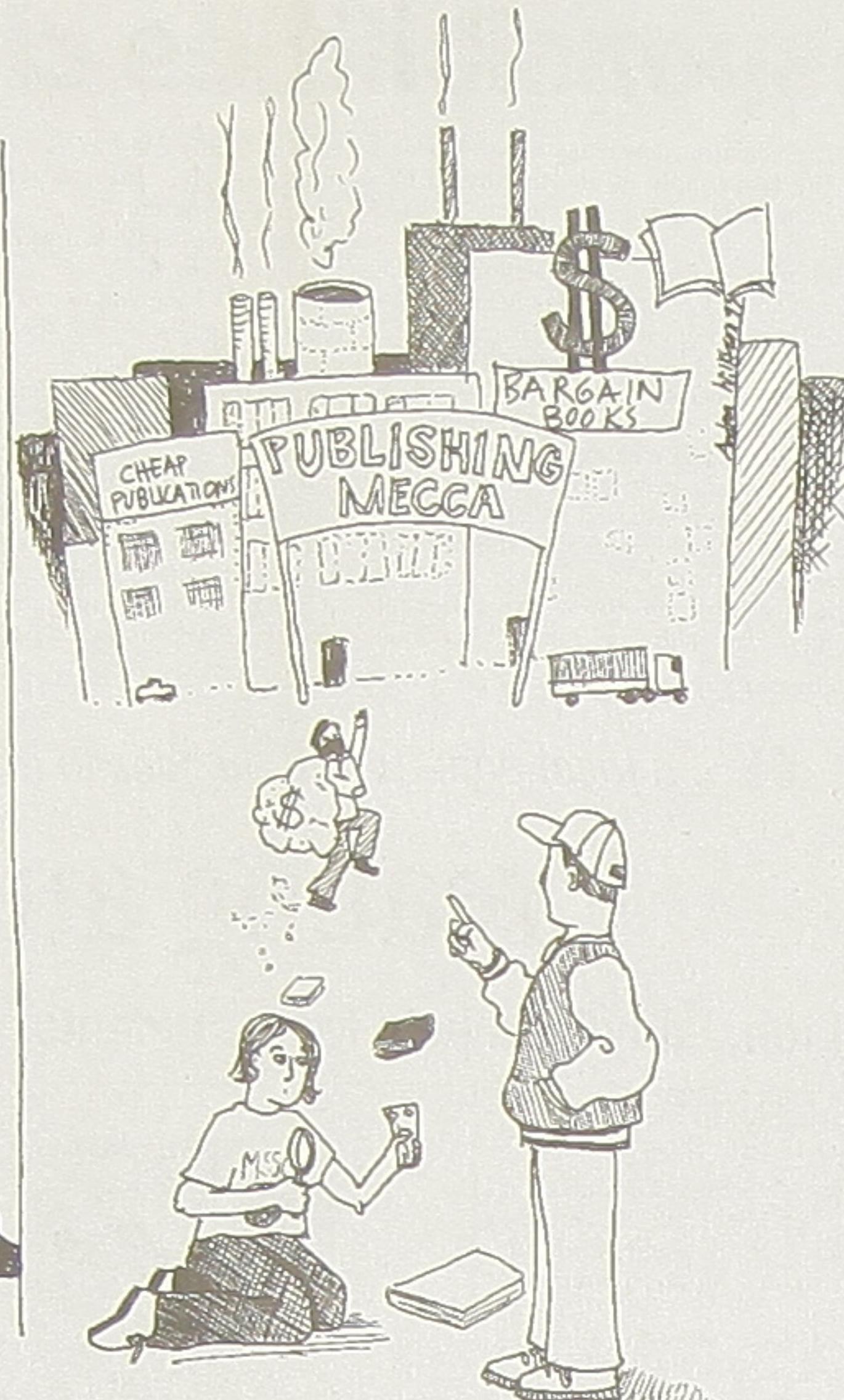
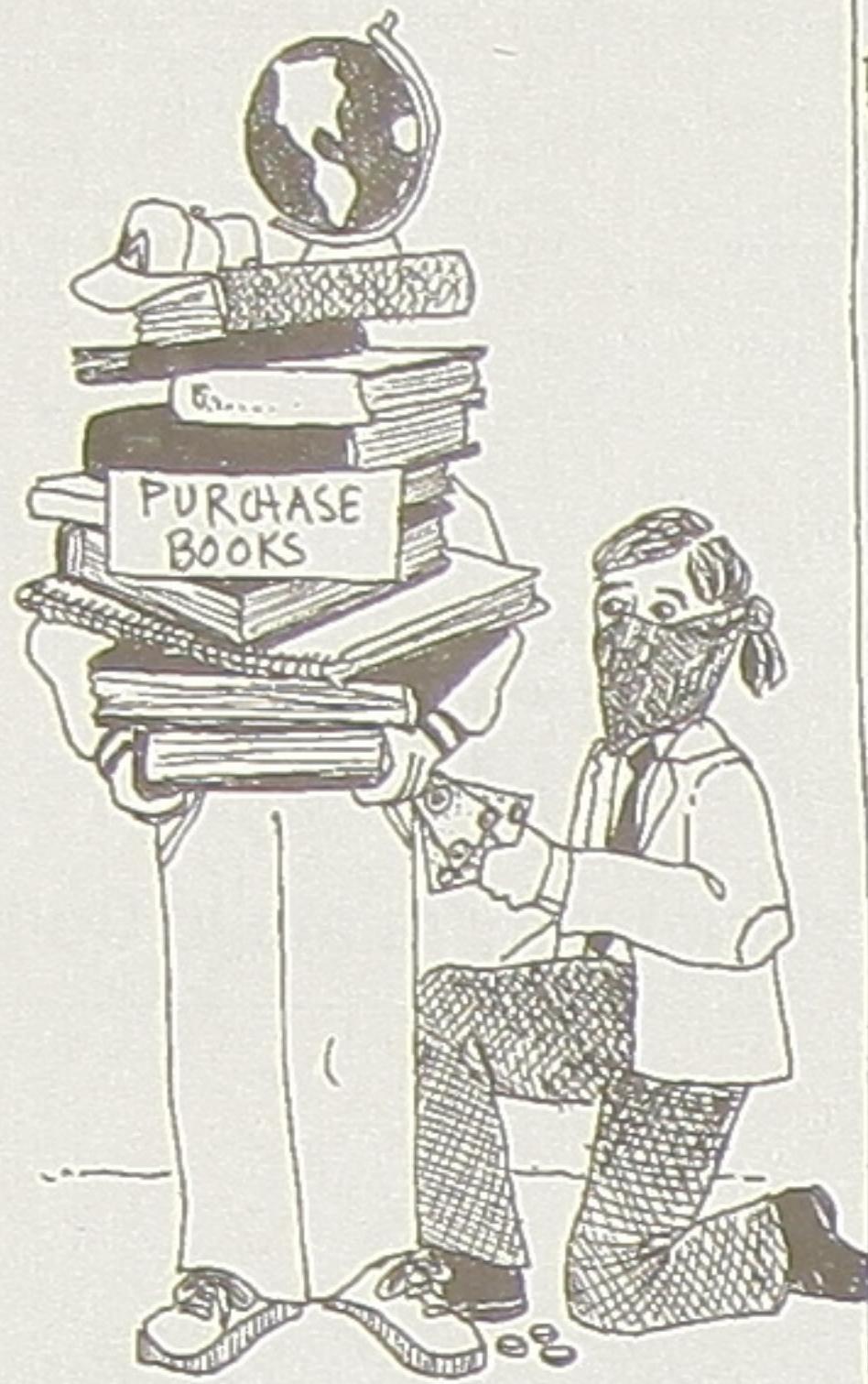
One of these facilities will be the \$2.2 million addition to the Student Life Center that will house a cafeteria to serve the residence halls as well as the rest of the campus.

The other facility is a \$5 million multipurpose field house with a seating capacity of approximately 4,000 people. The Missouri Southern Foundation has also committed \$1.5 million to those two projects.

The College will be in a position to issue bonds for the remainder of the funding and will hopefully find additional contributions.

Other important construction that will be funded by the state is the reconstruction of the Barn Theatre and the addition to the Spiva Library. These changes and additions will enhance our campus tremendously.

The construction described should be completed by the end of this century. This will allow Missouri Southern to enter the 21st century with a new international mission and new facilities with the expectation that enrollment will increase because of demographics. With visionary leadership, dedicated faculty, students committed to receiving the best education possible, and expanded learning facilities, as I stated at the beginning of this article, I believe Missouri Southern does indeed have a bright future. □



OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Going 'buy' the book

Most students who transfer to Missouri Southern from another college feel like they just won the lottery when they pick up their books. Wow!

Under \$200 — what a bargain!

At colleges that do not have rental book policies, books can easily run several hundred dollars a semester.

In spite of Missouri Southern's cost-saving rental book program, however, books are costing students more and more every semester, and it is time for the College to take another look at ways to trim those expenses.

The faculty policy manual already limits the cost of purchase books to \$35 each without approval of the department head, but some classes have several purchase books and may total much more.

Instructors need to limit the number of books and confirm the cost of the book before each semester.

They also should require only purchase books that they use extensively in the course material. Nothing aggravates a student more than paying \$25 for a book that the instructor seldom uses.

We applaud Dr. Virginia Laas, who responded to an out-

rageous book price by putting a copy of the book on reserve in the library instead of requiring students to buy it. Why doesn't that happen more often?

Many students do not know that books they purchased can be sold back to the bookstore at the end of the semester. Better publicity of this fact, by the bookstore and the instructors, would be welcome. And how about a better bargain on those used books? It seems excessive to give used books the same markup as new books.

Why can't more books be given the prized rental status? The current policy of allowing only one rental textbook per course should be revised to further reduce book expenses for students. After all, it is a win/win situation for the College to reduce costs in every way possible for the student.

Many students are quick to point a finger at the bookstore for the cost of books. However, it is usually the fault of the publisher rather than the bookstore.

It is the greediness of the publisher that jacks the price up and bookstores have to raise their surcharge to make a profit. And it winds up being the student at the counter with an armful of books. Oh no! Over \$50 — what a rip-off! □

YOUR LETTERS

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via E-mail. Our E-mail address: The Chart@aol.com Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

Former instructor still enjoying his time in Haiti

Editor's note: Dr. Hal Bodon, a former professor of French and German at Missouri Southern, is serving a two-year mission term in Haiti with his wife, Sonja.

By now you are undoubtedly hard at it again and looking forward to Christmas. I am looking forward to getting *The Chart* again.

Time still flies. We are really very busy and seem to collapse into bed every night. It is probably a combination of old age, heat, work, and lack of exercise. But we still enjoy it and really love these great people. Of course, the latest New York abuse case hasn't done much good here for Americans.

We thought you might be interested in a comparison of prices. Of course, buying in the street would even be cheaper. But we do most of our purchasing in one of the few supermarkets.

- One gallon of gas is \$2.
- A gallon of milk is \$7.
- A loaf of sliced bread is 85 cents.
- A two-day-old USA Today is \$2.25.

You can see that it is manageable. The exchange rate was 15:1 when we arrived, and now it is 16.5:1 (16 and a half gourdes to one dollar).

Unfortunately, there is still a lot of negative press about Haiti in the United States, so I was happy to get the following quote

from one of our friends. Actually it is a toast proposed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt at a dinner in the White House, Oct. 14, 1943, to the President of Haiti:

"Those of you who have been in Haiti know it is one of the most beautiful countries in the world. It has everything. It has everything above the ground, and everything under the ground... It is an amazing place. I strongly recommend that whenever you get a chance, if you haven't been there, that you go to Haiti... When I die, I think that 'Haiti' is going to be written on my heart."

Dr. Hal Bodon

Father, son rebuild classic work truck



TERESA BLAND/The Chart

Danny Craven, senior communications major, stands next to his 1965 Chevy pickup. Craven and his father, Larry Craven, a Seneca high school art teacher, restored the truck together in 1993, after it was wrecked.

By KEVIN COLEMAN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Even though he doesn't drive it often, Danny Craven is extremely proud of his father's old work truck.

Craven, a senior communica-

tions major, knows most of the history behind the 1965 Chevrolet pickup his father purchased in 1970.

"I paid \$900 for it," said Craven's father, Larry, a Seneca High School art teacher. "It had about 55,000 miles on it."

Larry Craven drove the truck for two years before turning it into the family vacation vehicle.

"When my sister was born in 1972," Danny Craven said, "Dad turned it into a travel truck. He put a camper shell on it and they drove it everywhere."

"In the 80s, he took the camper shell off and started using it as a work truck."

"He started hauling wood in it and throwing trash in it. It became his work truck."

In 1983, Craven's father had an accident in the truck and had to park it.

"The whole left side was caved in, basically," Larry Craven said. "The fender was caved in, the front wheels were bent back, and the A-frame was torn apart. It was undriveable. You couldn't steer it."

"The truck actually saved my life," he said. "If I'd been driving anything lighter, I probably wouldn't be here. I hit a culvert doing 40 or 45 [mph]."

The pickup sat beside the Craven house for 10 years after that, until Danny was a senior in high school.

"By that time the paint was faded, the wheels were rusty, and the rocker panels under the doors were rusted out," Craven said. "But, dad was saving it to fix it up."

When Craven and his father started restoring the pickup, there was considerable work to be done.

The truck's bed originally had a wood floor. Over the years that floor had started to disintegrate. The stock six-cylinder engine had been replaced with a 350 V-8 in order to handle the load of the camper.

They decided to rebuild the 350. "We fixed it up little by little," Craven said. "We had the frame straightened, we had to replace the front fender, and we had everything re-chromed."

The truck was repainted the original color, white over baby blue, and the floor of the bed was replaced by Craven and his father.

"We used yellow pine for the bed," Craven said. "We even had to replace the original steel rails, between the boards, with aluminum."

The original wood in the bed was just the natural color of the wood. We painted the new floor black and lacquered over it to give it more of a shine."

The original upholstery was in bad shape. The Cravens had the seat redone in black diamond tuft.

Last year the truck was entered for the first time in a car show.

"I wasn't intending to enter it in any shows," Larry Craven said.

A student of mine said, 'Mr. Craven, you ought to enter your pickup.' It was Indian Jamboree Days in Seneca. The truck won first place."

"We were put in the 1960-1969 truck category," he said. "We won first place in our category and got to take this two-foot-high trophy home." □

Nuts & Bolts

Parts prices may vary

Being a college student usually means not having much money but still having the same bills and mechanical problems as people who are making a decent living.

I know I've had my share of breakdowns with my old bus.

I've learned that it pays to shop around when you're buying car parts.

There is an abundance of auto parts stores around Joplin, and even if your vehicle isn't in running condition, all you need to do some comparison shopping is a telephone and the yellow pages.

Every store carries different brands of parts and, therefore, is going to have different prices on what the consumer is looking for. So, just because a certain store has a better deal on one part doesn't mean it is going to consistently have the better deals on all parts.

To demonstrate this point, I picked the typical college student's car — a 1993 Chevy Cavalier with a 3.1-liter V-6 engine. Then I selected five parts that will need to be replaced from time-to-time on that car: the water pump, alternator, spark plugs, oil filter, and wiper blades.

Then I chose three stores out of the many that are listed in the phone book: Autozone, O'Reilly's, and Clark's Machine Shop, which handles NAPA parts.

I know all these stores carry quality replacement parts manufactured by several companies.

I have also bought parts from all three stores at different times, and I always call all three to find the best deal whenever I'm needing a part.

At Autozone, an Apura water pump with a lifetime warranty has a price tag of \$24.99, compared to O'Reilly's price of \$37.99 for a Master water pump with the same guarantee and a Ray-loc brand pump with a one-year warranty at Clark's for \$19.99.

A Durastalt alternator with a lifetime warranty costs \$54.99 at Autozone. The AC Delco (a subsidiary of General Motors) brand of the same part — still with a lifetime warranty — is priced at \$81.97, and a Raylock alternator with a one-year warranty is \$84.99 at Clark's, who said it believes in "customer satisfaction" and would often honor the warranty even after a year.

Autozone carries AC Delco oil filters for \$2.49. O'Reilly's has the same brand for \$2.99, and Clark's will sell you the NAPA brand for \$4.

AC Delco spark-plugs cost \$6.84 for a set of six at Autozone, while O'Reilly's sells them for \$7.14, and Clark's will let them go for \$8.34.

You can buy Bosch wiper blade refills at Autozone for \$6.99, or you could buy the Anco brand for \$3.99 at O'Reilly's or \$4.99 at Clark's.

Of course these prices may vary from store to store, or even from one week to the next. The point is, it's best to shop around when you're looking for car parts. After all, a local phone call isn't going to hurt your finances. □

VEHICLE SPOTLIGHT

Despite higher price drivers buying SUVs

By SCOTT FRANCIS
STAFF WRITER

They have the size, capacity, and terrain capabilities of pickup trucks, those most veteran of 4x4s; however, they also have the quiet and enclosed feeling of a well-constructed car and the passenger capacity of a minivan.

They are sport-utility vehicles, and they have virtually taken over the automobile industry in recent years.

Jeeps and their counterparts are not a product of the 90s generation, or even of their parents'. How these vehicles originally received their odd name is a matter of opinion; however, these small, all-purpose passenger vehicles have been around since World War II as the grunts of the Army's mechanical force.

Their public appeal has skyrocketed recently, though. At G.L. Tucker Auto Sales, owner G.L. Tucker said sport utility sales have dominated what used to be the minivan market of the mid and late 80s.

"Car and truck sales haven't been impacted much, but minivan sales have definitely declined," Tucker said. "SUVs comprise about 25 percent of our total sales at this point."

Tucker sells low-mileage used vehicles. Most of his stock is a year old or less.

"Sport utility vehicles are very popular with young married couples, especially among women," he said. "We call them 'yuppie station wagons.'

"The age group SUVs are most popular with is the 25 to 40 group. The prices are substantially higher than cars, but people are willing to pay the higher payments."

Nationwide, SUV sales have lev-



A 1991 Chevrolet S-10 Blazer is one of several sport utility vehicles gaining popularity in recent years.

eled off, Tucker said, but "they're still very popular in this area. The availability of used ones is especially plentiful."

Tucker also noted that the Jeep Grand Cherokee and the Ford Explorer were among the most

popular models sold in the U.S.

"We sell between 75 and 100 sport utilities a year on the average," he said.

For those trying to save money but still impressed with the look of a Jeep or a Blazer, auto rebuilders are

a popular choice. Roger Gronewold is a Joplin auto rebuilding.

"I work exclusively in cars," Gronewold said. "I'd love to rebuild sport utilities, but they are so popular that even totaled, they are expensive to buy." □

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AROUND CAMPUS

Friday, September 5, 1997

CAMPUS SPORTS

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Today 5

- Volleyball in Missouri Southern/St. John's Sports Clinic Sports Day
 • Intramural flag football sign-up begins
 • Last day to return fall purchase books
 • Deadline for C-Base registration for Sept. 27 test

5 6

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

Saturday 6

- Volleyball in Missouri Southern/St. John's Sports Clinic Sports Day
 • Cross Country hosts Missouri Southern Invitational
 • Soccer at Lincoln University 2 p.m.—Culturally Speaking weenie roast at the Biology Pond

Sunday 7

- 6 p.m.—Newman Club meeting, St. Peter's Catholic Church, 8th and Pearl
 7 p.m.—Sigma Pi meeting, Stegge Hall basement
 • Alpha Sigma Alpha meeting, Panhellenic Room

Monday 8

- 7 p.m.—Baptist Student Union Quest Fellowship, Baptist Student Union Building

Tuesday 9

- 7 p.m.—Baptist Student Union Quest Fellowship, Baptist Student Union Building
 Noon— Latter-Day Saints Student Association meeting, BSC, Room 313
 12:15 p.m.—Non-traditional student brown bag lunch, Hearnes Hall, Room 211
 12:20 p.m.—College Republicans meeting, BSC, Room 311
 7 p.m.—Koinonia main meeting, College Heights Christian Church

Wednesday 10

- Intramural soccer league sign-up begins in the racquetball office
 Noon—Psychology Club, Taylor Hall, Room 115
 • CAB general board meeting, BSC Room 311
 9 p.m.—Wesley Foundation Mid-week Worship

Thursday 11

- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—Koinonia Lunch, basement of Stegge Hall
 2 p.m.—National Broadcasting Society, Webster Hall at the MSTV Studio
 6:30 p.m.—Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting, BSC, 2nd floor lounge
 7 p.m.—• Intramural ladder racquetball sign-up continues Zeta Tau Alpha meeting, Panhellenic room
 • Baptist Student Union, Thursday Night Together at BSU

Attention:
 Do you have
 an announcement
 pertaining to a
 campus organization?
 If so, please contact
The Chart at
625-9311.

By MARLA HINKLE
STAFF WRITER

O n the intramural schedule of events for the fall semester, a soccer league is the only sport added to the standard schedule of events.

For the upcoming season, Cindy Wolfe, intramurals director, mentioned changing deadlines for the golf and tennis leagues.

"It looks like we're going to have to push our deadline back for golf; we will move it back to Sept. 5 as well as for the tennis league," Wolfe said.

The procedure Wolfe uses to sign up new participants involves giving them the names of the people they are supposed to play and the deadline they must have the game played by.

"It is easier to set up that way so the people can have more flexibility of hours," she said.

The ladder racquetball deadline is Oct. 17. Winners are determined by signing up and challenging each other.

"They can challenge up to two spots ahead of them, and if they beat the other team, they move up the ladder," Wolfe said.

While the four-on-four sand volleyball deadline was Sept. 4, Wolfe said she hopes this season is more successful than last.

"It didn't go well because people didn't like the loca-

tion of the volleyball courts, which are now located out by the tennis courts," she said. "People did not like the new location because there is no wind protection."

The flag football deadline is Sept. 15. Flag football was popular last fall, according to Wolfe. One woman already has a team lined up this season, and the director aspires to recruit even more women's leagues this year.

Last year, there were only two women who signed up as individuals, compared to the 16-20 men's teams.

In Wolfe's experience at Missouri Southern, she said there had never been any women's teams. Swim meets are one activity Wolfe would like to add for the spring schedule.

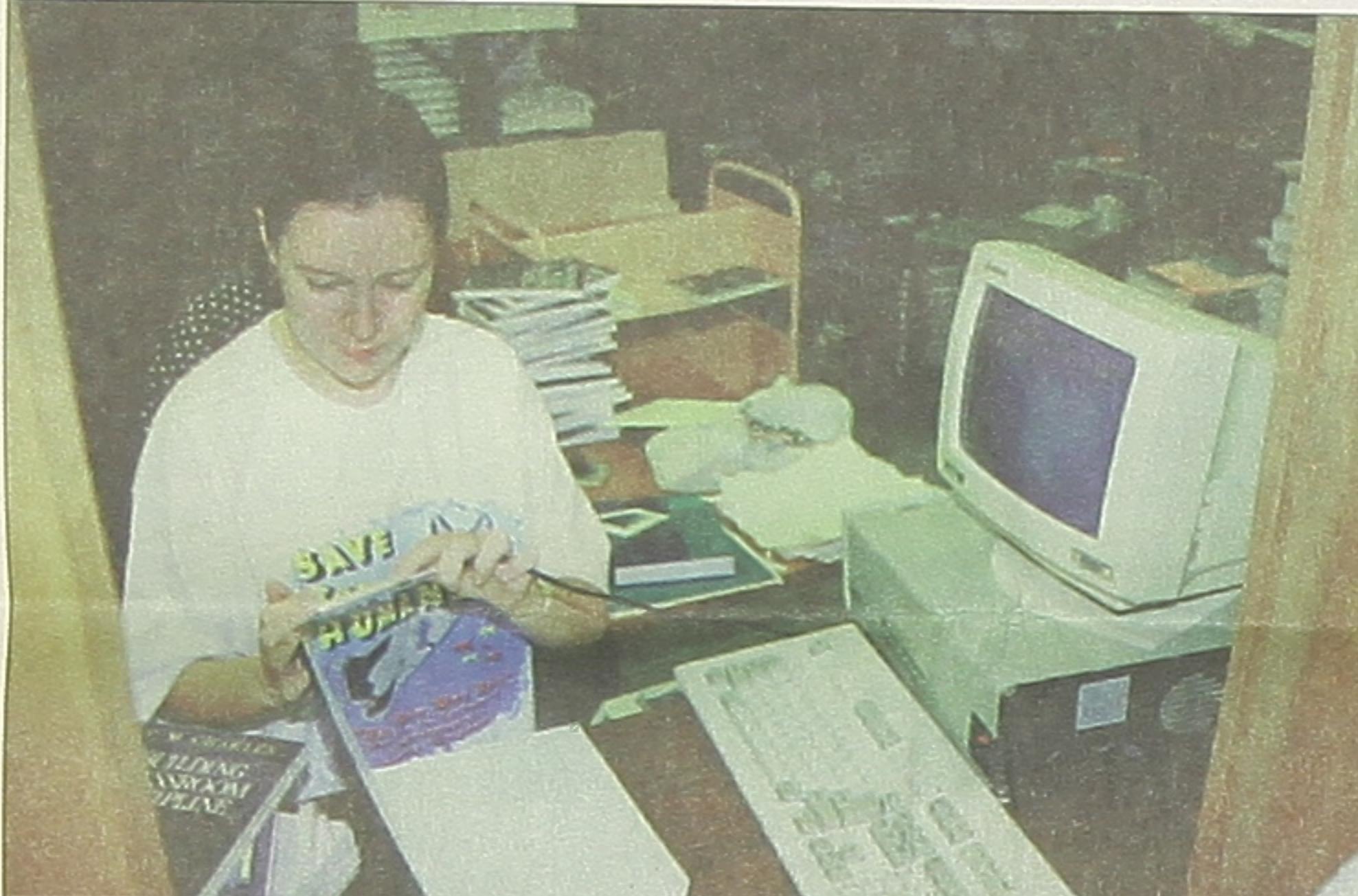
The process of registering for intramural activities involves signing up and getting together a group of individuals.

Each team turns in its own roster. Wolfe said participants can sign up as individuals by asking to be on someone's team, provided that teams needs more players, and by leaving a name, phone number, and Social Security number.

Wolfe said she tries to split up the players into most competitive to least and that athletes on all levels are welcome to participate.

"You don't have to be a great player to be involved in intramural activities," she said. "The main purpose is to help people get acquainted with others." □

COLLEGE BOOKSTORE



TIM WILSON/The Chart

Kayleen Schoenhals, senior elementary education major and bookstore employee, works at one of the new windows installed this summer to help shrink the lines for students checking out their rental textbooks.

Windows shorten book rental lines
 Summer renovations streamline operations, creates moreBy BRIAN PALMER
STAFF WRITER

C hecking out rental books has long been one of the many hassles associated with college life. So, the folks down in the College bookstore hit upon an idea — turn one line into three, thereby moving things more quickly.

Such is the genesis of the bookstore's new look. Three new windows, each one serving a different portion of the alphabet, create three short lines instead of one long line.

"Also, this gives us more room inside the store," said Steve Taylor, bookstore manager.

The renovation increased bookstore space by eight feet, which Taylor hopes to use for a receiving area.

"That may not sound like much, but when you're that crowded it is valuable," said Bob Beeler, director of the physical plant. "We were [also] able to put up a sort of barrier between the rental text section and the new books section."

The physical plant completed the renovation in three

weeks at a cost of \$1,685.

The renovation was not the only thing the bookstore used to relieve the long-line headache. As many students noticed, the Billingsly Student Center's basement was literally covered in rental textbooks.

The idea here was to pre-gather the books so students would not have to wait for books to be pulled from the shelves.

"The first time through, no one knew what was going on," Taylor said. "The students didn't know, and we didn't know how to do it. Now that we've been through it once, we can see how it went and maybe get some better directions to everyone."

The bookstore plans to use the system in future semesters to streamline the operation for smoother functioning.

Taylor said students could help keep lines short by picking up their rental textbooks before the first day of class.

He said students who do not know if they plan to keep all their classes may return rental textbooks for a full refund during the first week of class.

"Even if you know you're going to change a class, to me, it would be easier to go in and get them early," Taylor said. "[Because] we can make the changes right then." □

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Ice cream highlights Welcome Days

By MOOSE LEIGHTON
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I ce cream galore! That's what Missouri Southern students feasted on during Welcome Days, the first day of classes.

"The ice cream vans gave out \$2,448 worth of ice cream," said Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities.

Student services allotted \$1,700 for ice cream, but the student turnout was overwhelming.

"It was so hot Monday that even the businesses that were here with booths had ice cream," Carlisle said.

Jack's Ice Cream donated the rest of the amount to Southern.

There were nearly 70 local businesses that turned out for the event.

"Last year there were only about 45 businesses that came," said Darlene Beeler, secretary for the Billingsly Student Center.

The local businesses came to Southern to let students familiarize themselves with them.

Many of the businesses also handed out gifts and gave discounts to students for their various wares.

"This helps students find things they might need in Joplin, for those

who are either from out of the area or are not familiar with Joplin," Beeler said.

Welcome Days was the wrap-up from the weekend when freshmen began moving into the residence halls on Saturday and Sunday.

"The freshmen also had a cook-out this weekend," Beeler said.

Ordinarily, Welcome Weekend is called Freshman Day.

"Usually, Welcome Weekend is for new freshmen, but we thought it would be better for the businesses and those returning students to get a chance to meet the businesses in the community," Beeler explained. □

STUDENT FEATURE



TERESA BLAND/The Chart

Student Senate President and senior mathematics major Eden Aber talks with Heidi Stevens, senior elementary education major over a lunch break in the Billingsly Student Center cafeteria.

Aber balances work, school, Senate duty

By LINDA WHITED
STAFF WRITER

66

Student Senate is a way students voice their opinion and ideas.

Eden Aber
President,

99

We are a liaison between the students and administration."

One of Aber's paths to the student government involved serving in philanthropic capacities. Benefits, teas, and United Way functions afforded valuable experiences.

"I was always interested in government, especially since high school cheerleading prevented me from a huge club involvement," she said. "However, I was a part of the student council during my junior and senior years."

Aber is planning a career in actuary science. Her future plan is to work with an insurance company predicting future trends. Mathematical expertise prepares her to predict bottom-line losses, a statistical analysis.

The Senate connects the College administration and students. A United Way Casino Night is the annual Senate-sponsored fund-raiser.

"Get involved," Aber says. "Don't be embarrassed to ask a senator or executive officer about getting changes implemented."

The Senate meets every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m., and any student may attend. □

NEW MSSC 4-H CLUB!!

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Arts

ETC.

Friday, September 19, 1997

Page 7A

Coming Attractions

On Campus



Art Exhibit

■ through Sept. 19—
Southern Alumni Art
Exhibit, Spiva Art
Gallery

TAYLOR AUDITORIUM
Sept. 17-20—The Middle
Ages

Oct. 15-18—Les Liaisons
Dangereuses

MATTHEWS AUDITORIUM
Foreign Films
Sept. 16—You Only Live
Once

Sept. 30—Man of Marble

WEBSTER AUDITORIUM
Sept. 7—Jazz in Joplin
Sept. 25—Student Recital
Sept. 30—Faculty Voice
Recital - Mrs. Cook
Oct. 2—Lect./Demo.,
Angeles String Quartet
Oct. 7—Senior Recital -
Joanie Martin, Piano
Oct. 9—Student Recital
Oct. 9—Senior Recital -
Keith Talley, Saxophone
Oct. 16—Student Recital

Joplin



■ Sept. 21—Clay
Walker and Lee Ann
Womack, Memorial
Hall

CHAMPS 782-4944

Every Tuesday—Blues Jam,
open mic for musicians
Sept. 5-6—Nite Train
Sept. 10—Solace
Sept. 12-13—Aunt Sally

THE BYPASS
624-9095
Sept. 5—The Nace Brothers
Sept. 13—Oreo Blue

GUITARS AND CADILLACS
659-9870
Sept. 10—Quiet Riot

MEMORIAL HALL
623-3254
Sept. 21—Clay Walker and
Lee Ann Womack

Carthage

POWERS MUSEUM
Sept. 16-Oct. 26—
Museum of American
Quilter's Society exhibit

RED OAK II AMPHITHEATER
Sept. 20—BE with King
Friday

SPIVA ART GALLERY

Alumni display fruits of art careers

By EILEEN COR
STAFF WRITER

Whether your fancy is fruit, history, or the human form, the Missouri Southern Alumni Art Exhibit has all three.

The Spiva Art Gallery is featuring artists Andy Thomas and Brent Watkinson, who both graduated from Southern in 1982.

Thomas graduated with a marketing degree and has had no formal training in art.

"My real teachers have been the thousands of pieces of bad artwork I've done," he said. "Personal guidance from artist friends and an appreciation of art history help, too."

Thomas left his advertising career to paint and sculpt full-time. His published works include several book covers, illustrated books, limited edition prints, posters, and note cards.

"With the exhibition program, we focus primarily on the gallery, and part of that is exhibiting the work of alumni of the art department of Southern," said V.A. Christensen, Southern's gallery coordinator.

The significance of the alumni exhibits is to

provide a model for the students that are now enrolled and giving them some perspective on art careers."

Watkinson was a sophomore art major when he attended an alumni art exhibit featuring an alumnus 15 years his senior. He found it ironic and "a fun thing to do" as he put up his own art work in the same gallery 15 years after graduating.

"It felt good," he said. "I felt really proud."

Watkinson has been an illustrator in private practice for 12 years. A few of his clients include American Express, *Cook's Illustrated Magazine*, *Science Magazine*, Geffen Records, Sony Music, NASA, U.S. Pentagon, and William Morrow Publishing.

He said it has been a tough 15 years in a competitive market, but he enjoys making images.

Watkinson does traditional oil painting, digital mixed media, and photography.

Some of the photographs from his unpublished book titled *The Chair*, may be viewed in the Southern Alumni Art Exhibit, which continues through Sep. 19. Exhibit hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. □



TERESA BLAND/The Chariot
Tom Porter, pharmacist at St. John's Hospital takes a gander at a few of the paintings on exhibit at the Spiva Art Gallery Alumni Art Exhibit. Porter is a student of the arts.

LOCAL DRAMA

Theatres announce plays

By KIKI COFFMAN
STAFF WRITER

Arts patrons looking for someplace new to go might hazard a glance at two local theatre playbills.

It is now a new theatre season and drama aficionados will note several changes in two locally accessible haunts.

The Joplin Little Theatre (JLT) and Stone's Throw Community Theatre, Carthage, have scheduled some new shows, and in one case a new organization, for a fresh approach.

The JLT is celebrating its 60th season and will offer musicals and comedic plays. *Crazy For You*, a vivacious musical directed by Carolyn McGowan, opens the 1997-98 slate. The show is a highly energetic comedy involving plot twists and mistaken identity.

"A lot of our shows are musical this season," said Nadine Schmidt, JLT president and assistant to the vice president for academic affairs at Missouri Southern. "Crazy For You has lots of dancing, music, and it's very colorful."

"It looks like it's going to be incredible," she said. "It's full of Gershwin music like 'I Got Rhythm.'"

Crazy For You will play Oct. 3-5 and Oct. 7-12. Tickets are on sale now.

Other JLT works in progress include *To Kill a Mockingbird*, a stage version of the Harper Lee classic; *Ain't Misbehavin'*, a revue based on the jazz spirit of Fats Waller and the old-time 1930s jazz joints; *Blithe Spirit*, one of Noel Coward's best-known comedies; and *A Chorus Line*, the longest-running musical in Broadway history.

On another note, Stone's Throw Community Theatre opened the 1997-98 season with *Dark Horse*, a darkly realistic play written by Gary Blackwood that centered on the trial of a young black girl. The show received standing ovations and much praise five of the six nights it played.

After *Dark Horse*'s success, Henry Heckert, resident director, said he thought it might be good to try something a little different. He believed change was eminent and probably long overdue. Heckert said the scripts would be more challenging, possibly controversial, for the actors and audiences this season.

Stone Throw's second show of the season, *Going To See The Elephant*, is a mature comedy focusing on the gritty strength of some Kansas pioneer women.

"*Going to See The Elephant* is a serious one, but it has a lot of funny lines in it," said Betty Bell, Carthage veteran actor.

"We are also having 'special shows,' which are specifically aimed for the theatre patron who doesn't want to spend money for a dinner and a show," Heckert said.

These special shows will run only two evenings. Patrons can pay extra for sandwiches, cookies, and other foods that will be made available at a deli bar.

The theatre will offer *The Cemetery Club*, *Saving Grace*, and *I Remember You*, among other plays.

Also newly active at Stone's Throw this season is a young people's theatre, a club in full effect with officers, pool parties, cookouts, and special performances. This group was put together to encourage young people to join the theatre and to participate in any way they can. □

MSIPC

Piano competition draws contestants worldwide

By JEFF WELLS
STAFF WRITER

This spring, pianists from all corners of the globe will come to the College to compete in the seventh Missouri Southern International Piano Competition. The MSIPC will be held Tuesday, April 21 through Saturday, April 25. The event is the culmination of two years' work by hundreds of community individuals and businesses.

Vivian Leon, MSIPC director, said inquiries have been received from prospective competitors from 35 states and 27 foreign countries. Packets of information about the competition were sent to more than 12,000 colleges, universities, music conservatories, and professional pianists.

The deadline for preliminary round entrees is Jan. 12, 1998. Applicants must submit a video demonstrating their ability to master works by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, or Schubert. Those selected will be invited to Southern for the semifinal and final rounds.

Competitors are divided into two age categories: the senior division is for ages 18 to

30; the junior division is for ages 17 and below. The prize values have increased for 1998. First place in the senior division will receive more than \$8,000 and will present a performance in New York. Last year's winner, Natasha Kislenko, from Russia, has returned to the United States to study at Southern Methodist University.

Regional pianists from Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas may enter the honors audition program to be held March 21. Entrants must be 18 or under when the competition is held.

Leon said the MSIPC is a major arts event for the Joplin area. The event attracts audience members from the St. Louis area and beyond.

"[The competition] started out as a school project and grew into a community project," she said.

Financially independent of the College, the MSIPC is supported by local businesses and individuals. One of the major fundraisers for the MSIPC, a golf tournament, will be held Sept. 11 at Twin Hills Country Club in Joplin.

This competition is unique in that it has brought many people in the community together," Leon said.

Five internationally renowned pianists from Korea, Poland, Denmark, and the United States will serve as judges for the competition. Leon said more information on the judges will be announced later. □



CD REVIEW

'Transistor' achieves fusion, new heights of diversity



Aaron
Deslatte
Associate Editor

Diversity has never been a term that failed to adequately describe an album by 311. The Omaha natives' self-titled release in 1995 was perhaps the most artistically and financially successful fusion of rap and metal since *Faith No More's The Real Thing*, and earlier efforts have distinguished 311 as one of the few acts that can create previously unheard of musical mergers and make them work. But with the group's fourth Capricorn Records release, *Transistor*, 311 has taken their style-fusing abilities to a new level.

The first noticeable difference on the new album is a dirtier guitar tone featured on the title track and first single. Timothy Mahoney's guitar licks are muddy and considerably more intricate throughout the album than the gap-riffing the group has occasionally

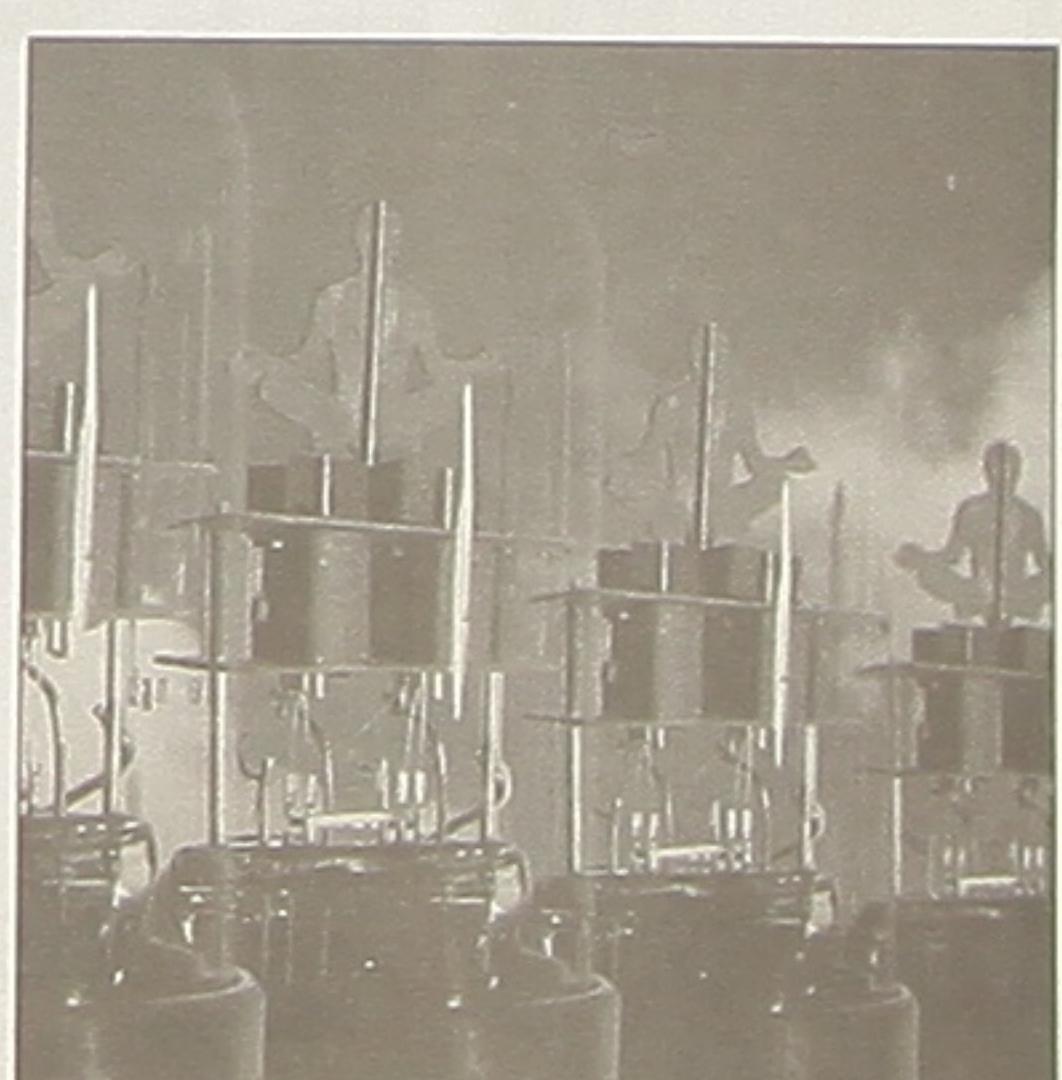
overused in the past. The result is a heavier sound than 311 has produced in recent memory.

But before the metal fans get too excited, let's not forget that diversity is the only constant on a 311 album, as is evident on the second track. "Prisoner" incorporates the group's reggae and Latin influences while capitalizing on the vocal harmonizations Nicholas Hexum and SA Martinez execute with an ease that leaves most rip-off bands in the dust.

While not completely abandoning the rap/metal fusion that made 311 such a success, the group has toned down the rap vocals, clearly acknowledging the over-exploitation of the genre. When the rap influence does surface, Martinez handles a majority of the lyrical delivery, and Hexum occasionally fills in.

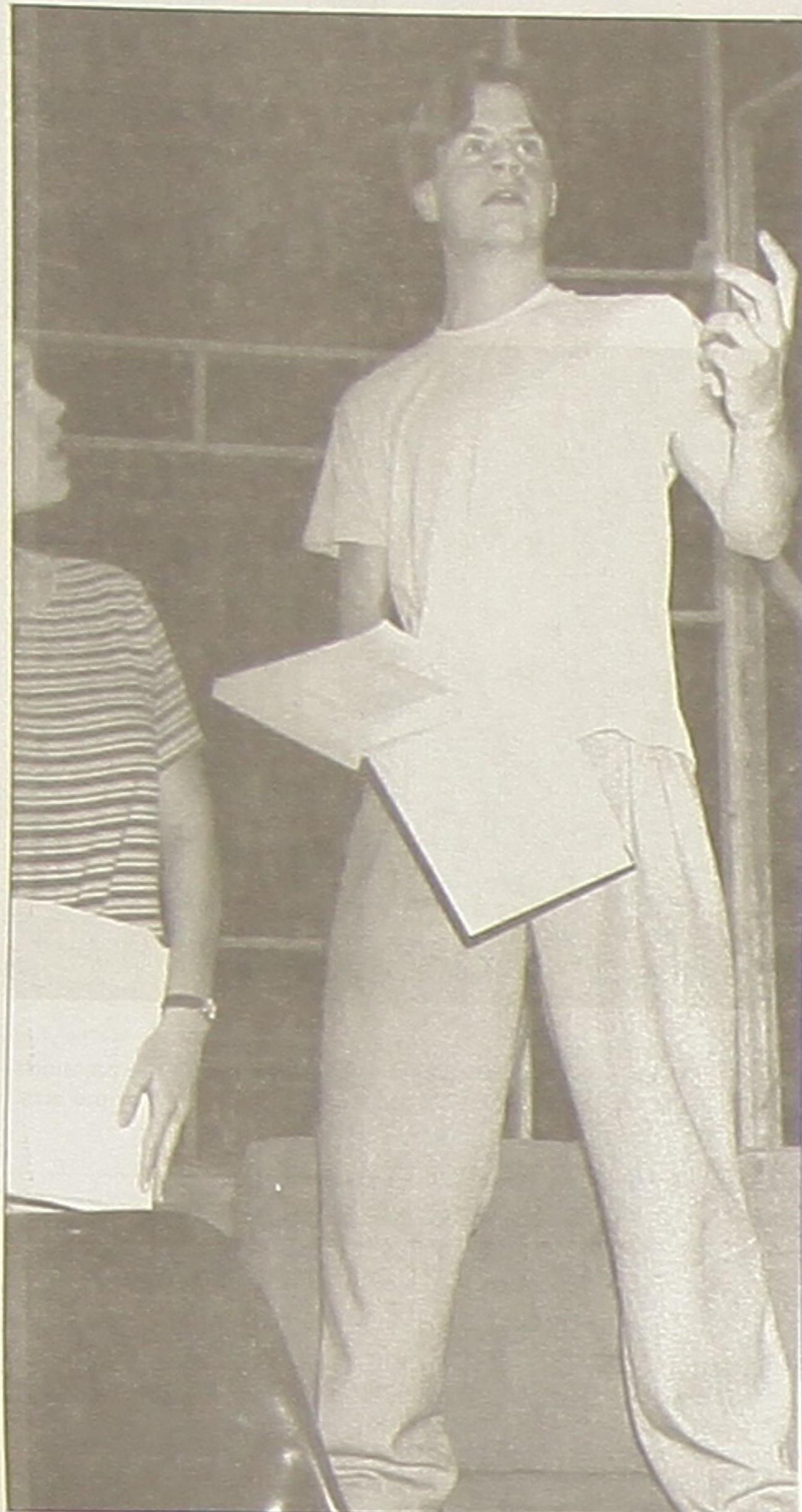
What might surprise longtime 311 fans is the limited presence of sampling and synth effects that culminate on "Strangers," but is present in several other songs. Combined with some absolutely bizarre guitar tones, these few tracks sound more experimental than anything off the last two albums. Mahoney even throws in some classical guitar leads to further confuse listeners. Not that confusion is necessarily a bad thing in the realm of artistic expression, mind you.

However, there are a few songs which seem to exist only to make it harder for disk jockeys to categorize the group. These tracks could have been cut from the 21-song album without lowering the quality of the product, but such is the



case with a majority of recent double-length releases. At least the guys in the band insisted on packaging *Transistor* in a single album format to keep the price down. □

Student directors lead season



Jason Engstrom, sophomore theatre major, practices a scene from *The Middle Ages*, a romantic comedy to be student-directed this fall.

By MICHAEL RASKA
ASSISTANT EDITOR

A love story revolving around relationships, change, and social norms, *The Middle Ages* marks the beginning of a new theatre season at Missouri Southern.

"*The Middle Ages* is a romantic comedy of two acts that is placed in a time span of 1940s through 1970s, and shows how the relationships change in a period of time," said Autumn Ross, senior theatre major and director of the play.

The play represents a revolution and transition from an old, conservative way of life to a vibrant, dynamic, new life.

The author, A.R. Gurney Jr., tries to satirize the White-Anglo-Saxon-Protestant culture with the character of Barney, who fights against the social norms at the men's club owned by his father.

Ross hopes to present a quality entertainment through a spontaneous, charming web of relationships that the audience will enjoy.

"My character, Barney, is sort of a black sheep of the family," said Jason Engstrom, sophomore theatre major. "I want to send a flowing energy to the audience with this play."

Other cast members include Mariah Kissel, junior music major, as Ellenor; Heather Haar, senior theatre major, as Myra; and Brandon Davidson, senior theatre major, as Charles.

The Middle Ages is one of four main stage productions directed by the students, according to Dr. Jay Fields, director of Southern Theatre.

"This season is going to be exciting, because we have four of our senior theatre major students directing main-stage productions," Fields said. "Very few undergraduate programs have students direct

main-stage shows, which really occur at the graduate level."

Student-directed plays this season will also include *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, by Christopher Hampton; *The Runner Stumbles*, by Milan Stitt; and *The Beauty and The Beast*, by Warren Graves.

Two other stage productions, *The Stolen Prince*, a classic Chinese tale by Dan Totheroh; and *Guys and Dolls*, a musical by Frank Loesser, Jo Szwierling, and Abe Burrows, complete this year's season at Southern Theatre.

Performances for *The Middle Ages* are at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 17-20 in Taylor Auditorium. For tickets, reservations, and more information, persons may call (417) 625-3190. □

UPCOMING ProductionS

Sept. 17-20
The Middle Ages

Oct. 15-18
Les Liaisons Dangereuses

Dec. 6, 7
The Stolen Prince

Jan. 28-31
The Runner Stumbles

Feb. 25-28
Guys and Dolls

April 18, 19
Beauty and The Beast

PERFORMING ARTS

'Slams' heighten poetry experience

By BRIAN PALMER
STAFF WRITER

literary community in southwest Missouri."

Cordell-Wilson's involvement is not new to the art. In June it sponsored its first poetry slam, which was a larger success than organizers had hoped. Bennett Wilson, part owner-operator of the Los Amigos bar/Cordell-Wilson Booksellers, hopes the turnout will be even better this time.

"I hope we have a better crowd, although we had a nice turnout for the first one," Wilson said. "We had about 80 to 100 people and about 15 or 20 participants."

Wilson believes slam's nature draws people to it.

"It was started to make poetry more accessible to people and more entertaining for everyone," he said.

The rules of the contest say the performance must be entertaining, because the judges are drawn directly from the audience.

Prizes are \$75 for first place, donated by Cordell-Wilson, and \$25 for second place, donated by Imagine Gallery of Fine Art in Carthage.

There is no entry fee for participants, nor a cover charge for audience members.

The event takes place at 7 p.m. Friday at Cordell-Wilson/Los Amigos on Old Route 66 in Brooklyn Heights between Carthage and Webb City, near the newly refurbished Route 66 Drive-in Theater.

Hoerman believes this location is particularly suited to the event.

"I don't think there's any better place for live poetry than an old Route 66 roadhouse where you can get cheap draws," he said. □

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September 24

October 8

October 22

November 12

December 10

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RESIDENT HALL TENNIS COURTS

PIG ROAST

Dance
with music by Curt Benelli

PRIZES

REFRESHMENTS

CONTESTS

SPONSORED BY CAB

Local theater expansion set for spring

Movie complexes to double number of Joplin screens

By RHONDA CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Not one but two 14-screen movie theaters are coming attractions on Range Line's food and entertainment strip.

Two Dallas-based companies announced plans for facilities — Cinemark USA Inc. to the south and Hollywood Theaters to the north. This increases the projected number of theaters in Joplin from 18 to 46.

Randy Hester, vice president of marketing and communications for Cinemark, confirmed that the company is "definitely working on something" for the Joplin area.

That something apparently is a 14-screen, 2,715-seat movie theater.

On Aug. 25, the Joplin zoning and planning commission approved the development plan for the 12.3-acre site just south of the Cracker Barrel Old Country Store at I-44 and Highway 71 (Range Line).

Building plans have not been



JOHN SMITH/The Chart

Nick Kubicek, Joplin, a Mall 5 employee, waits on Amanda Winters, 16, of Joplin at the concession stand.

submitted by Cinemark officials.

Kyle Long, a south Joplin resident and Joplin High School senior, sees the new theater as a welcome addition to the neighborhood.

Lengthy lines and sold-out shows are both problems he has experienced at local theaters.

"The other ones (theaters) are crowded and sell out," he said. "It will be handy to have another one so you can get tickets."

Long's mother, Marcia Long,

believes the new theater is good for Joplin, but has some concerns about the environment. With 827 parking spaces in the plan, she hopes the city manages the water run off into nearby Silver Creek. Increased traffic may also pose a problem.

"It will make more traffic on 44th Street, which has a narrow bridge," Long said. "I'm really concerned about it because it is such a narrow street."

Robert Mabary, general manager

of Joplin's Mall V Theater, believes the possibility of a new complex is good for the area. Even though it may provide initial competition, he said business will "level out" with time.

"I've been in this industry for 16 years, and that's pretty much the way it runs," Mabary said.

He thinks Joplin's retailing draws from the surrounding metro area and "time will tell" how much impact the additional movie screens will have. Overall, Mabary

sees this as a good thing because it attracts people and businesses.

"A theater draws a lot of people," he said. "It's not just fast food, it's entertainment."

More screens mean more movies. Currently, some movies do not come to Joplin or have limited stays.

Hollywood Theaters, in association with New York-based Enterprise Asset Management, anticipates completion of a 14-screen theater near Northpark Mall in the spring of 1998.

Tracy Bundy, Hollywood's director of marketing, said the new theater will have stadium seating for 2,200, black-box auditoriums, digital sound, a game room, and a party room.

In mid-September, Hollywood assumes operations of all Dickinson Theatres. This includes Mall V, Eastgate, and Northpark.

"We wanted to give people of Joplin a better movie-going experience," Bundy said. "We are looking forward to opening the new theater and being a stronger force in Joplin by taking over the Dickinson Theatres."

Hester said Cinemark was unconcerned about Hollywood's plans for the area.

"It doesn't affect us one bit," he said. "We're moving forward." □

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Blood center reports greater donor response

The Community Blood Center of the Ozarks reports excellent donor response to the recent critical appeal for O+ and O- blood types.

The people of Joplin and the surrounding communities have once again responded well to the critical alert for blood by helping to replenish the supply of O+ and O- blood for our area hospitals," said Gene Waite, director of public relations.

However, Waite says donors must continue to give blood regularly in order to help maintain the blood supply for area hospitals and avoid future critical blood shortages. All eligible donors are encouraged to give blood at the Joplin Community Blood Center, 2629 E. 32nd St., Monday through Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. or Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Donors may also give blood at an area CBCO bloodmobile.

For more information, persons may contact Jeff Champion, assistant director of public relations, at (417) 227-5311. □

Hospital sponsors walk, diabetes support group

St. John's Regional Medical Center will host a Diabetes Support Group meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday. The meeting will be held in the cafeteria of the Brady Rehabilitation Center, south of the medical center.

The program, "Monitoring Your Blood Sugar," will be presented by the support group's coordinator, Mary Lou McGee, RN. McGee is also a certified diabetes educator. This program provides a good opportunity to ask questions about the process of monitoring blood sugar, products available, and other pertinent information.

The support group is free of charge. All persons with diabetes, along with family members and friends, are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be provided.

St. John's 15th annual Walk For Hospice will be held this year on Saturday, Sept. 27. The walk will be held at Cunningham Park at 26th and Maiden Lane.

Beyond the volunteer walkers, between 30 and 40 volunteers will be needed the day of the walk to help ensure things run smoothly. If you are unable to walk but would still like to help in some way, please volunteer to help during the walk.

Volunteers are needed to help with registration, serve at the picnic, direct traffic, and staff checkpoints.

Registration will be from 9 a.m. until 9:45 a.m., with the walk starting at 10 a.m. Lunch and the prize presentation will be from 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information about St. John's Hospice, the 1997 Walk for Hospice, or for walker collection forms, call the hospice office at (417) 625-2329. □

MDC provides free tours of Missouri natural areas

The Missouri Department of Conservation naturalists are offering free hiking tours to mark the 20th anniversary of the Missouri Natural Areas system, a program to preserve the best remaining examples of Missouri's biological communities and geological sites.

Two-hour hikes will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Each hike will be limited to 20 people. Registration is required. The topography is not steep, but is rough and rocky in places. All participants should bring drinking water, sun screen, insect repellent, and hiking shoes.

Persons interested in registering may contact the Missouri Department of Conservation at 781-2811. □

SCHOOL RENOVATIONS

High school teams play seasons at Southern

By MARILYN TAFT
STAFF WRITER

For the first time since Joplin High School opened, its athletic fields are getting refurbished.

"We worked out a deal with the Missouri National Guard's summer training program to redo our fields," said Rusty Shelley, athletic director for the Joplin school district.

The Guard is reconfiguring the land on the south side of the high school at no cost to the district.

The original field is badly sloped, and portions are unusable.

Not only will the field be leveled, but other changes are planned.

"The football practice field will be moved down slightly to allow adequate room for the soccer field," Shelley said.

A practice track, not previously available, will be constructed around the football field. This track will be used for phys-

66

Our kids are excited [about] going out to Missouri Southern and playing on the turf.

Mike Loyd
JHS varsity coach

99

their home games at Southern.

"We have a small token charge to help defray costs," explained Jim Frazier, director of men's athletics at the College.

The soccer teams are practicing and having

The Missouri National Guard handled refurbishing of the Joplin High School athletic field this summer.

TIM WILSON/The Chart

The cost charged to the varsity football team to play its home games at Southern is \$500 each game.

The soccer teams are not being charged any fee because they are using a field not used or lighted by Southern.

Playing home games in Hughes Stadium will be a change for the Joplin High varsity team because Southern's stadium is made from artificial turf.

Junge Stadium, where the team practices, has real grass.

"It's going to be different," said Ian Gray, varsity football team member. "We had a soap scrimmage out there a couple of years ago, but that was then."

Artificial turf is a little harder than grass, but that should not cause any problems, said Mike Loyd, Joplin High School varsity coach.

"I played on turf for years, and I never felt like it caused more injuries," Loyd said.

Our kids are excited [about] going out to Missouri Southern and playing on the turf," Loyd finished. □

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Joplin Family Y planning Freeman Hospital expansion

Health care facility collaboration will be open to the public

By JEFF BILLINGTON
STAFF WRITER

After reporting a 60 percent growth in the last six years, the Joplin Family Y will soon be building an additional 52,000-square-foot facility.

"We have been looking for a place to grow for over five years," said Hollee Johanson, membership/marketing director for the Joplin Family Y.

"Two years ago Freeman approached us about collaborating," she said. "And our board of directors decided to pursue it."

According to Johanson, the board of directors then conducted a feasibility study and did research on the matter. This brought a response that reflected community support.

"So they committed to move forward," Johanson said. "Raise the \$2.3 million and build the new facility."

Johanson said the Y has planned to locate its second facility south of 32nd Street on McIntosh Circle Drive, west of Freeman Hospitals and Health System.

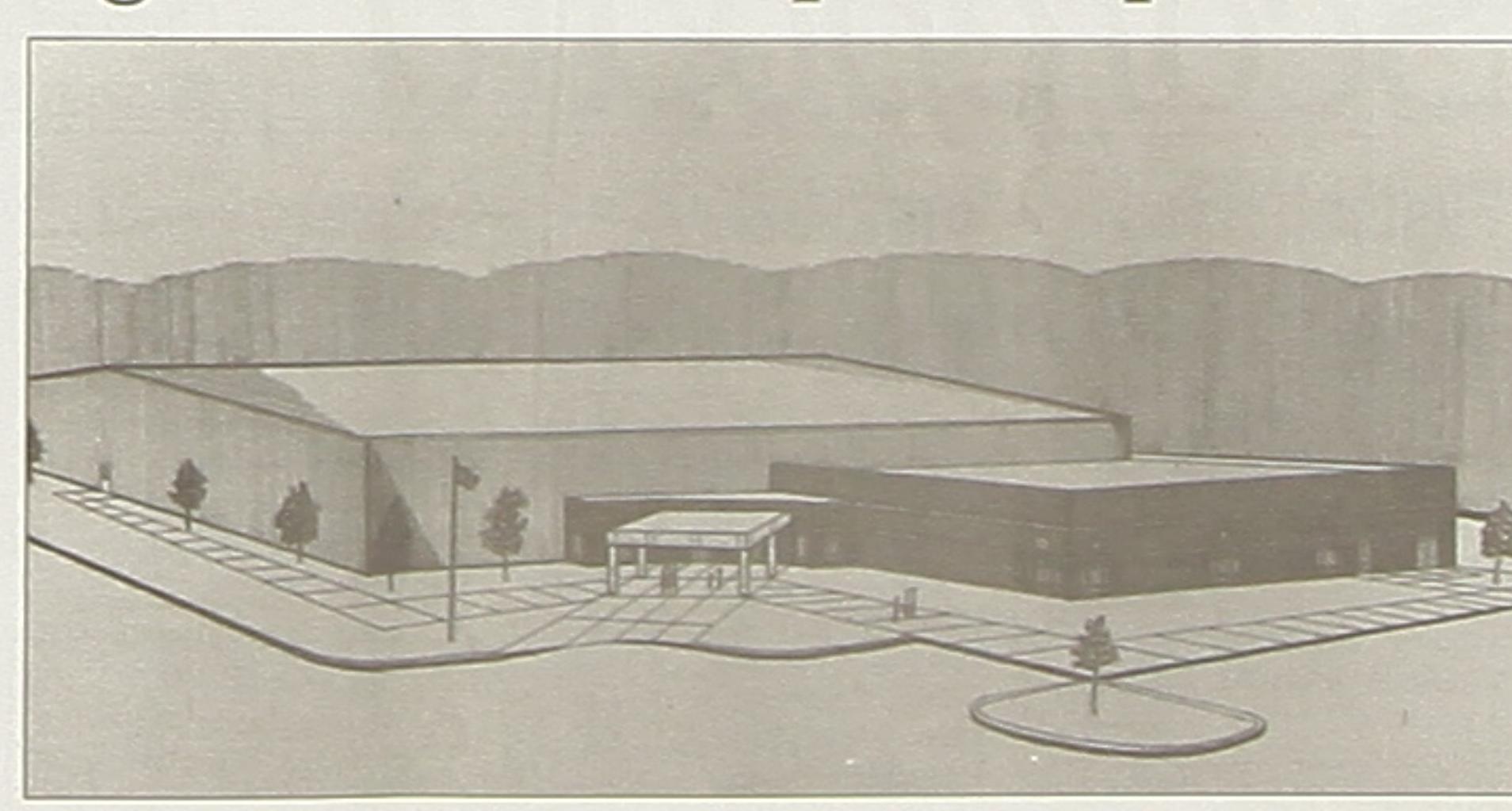
"The facility will include a youth gym, a family gym, a suspended running track, a full cardiovascular center, and indoor swimming pool," she said.

"It will also have a gymnastic center, a nursery, locker rooms for both men and women, a multipurpose and aerobics room, offices, and reception area."

Johanson said that with the larger space the Y plans to offer more programs, classes, and activities than are available at the existing facility that is more than 106 years old.

"We are really focusing on increasing our family and children's programming," she said. "Because that is an area that we feel the largest need for in Joplin right now."

"We will probably have more activities for youth," Johanson added, "such as youth in government and an Indian guide program that is big in the YMCA."



The new Joplin Y, as featured in this artist rendering, is tentatively scheduled for completion in 1999.

Johanson said this new facility will not be reserved for Y members only. "It's a community center," she said.

"We are not just building it for YMCA folks. It will be available to the whole community for whatever purposes they might want to use it."

The Y plans to break ground on

the new facility after the first of the year.

Completion is scheduled eight to 12 months later, Johanson said.

"It will be bigger, more modern, and it will be equipped to facilitate adults, students, senior adults, families, and children," she said.

The Y believes this expansion is the next logical step in serving the community.

"This new facility is moving us into the next century," Johanson said.

"And is going to help us serve the needs of Joplin and the surrounding communities for another hundred years." □

Sports SCOPE

All aboard,
the journey
is beginning

Andre Smith
Staff writer

This is the final call for all sports fans riding on the Missouri Southern bandwagon. This journey will last for three months with stops at Fred G. Hughes Stadium, Robert Ellis Young Gymnasium, and the soon-to-be named Bodon Field.

Not to mention the road trips through some of our favorite neighboring cities such as Pittsburg, Maryville, Kirksville, and so on and so forth. So if you have decided to embark on this risky endeavor, then read carefully.

We have a long road to travel, and I will be your driver. My name is Andre Smith. I am a junior communications major from Buffalo, N.Y., and I am also a former Missouri Southern football Lion. If the name sounds familiar, well, you have probably read some of my work in *Crossroads: The Magazine* or received a huge bear hug from my 300-pound frame.

As a student/athlete/journalist, I have developed a tell-it-like-it-is attitude since bias is not my thing. Therefore, I will offer constructive criticism when needed and offer my opinions based on my knowledge of the subject.

So here I am telling you like it is:

• Whenever Brad Cornelisen is under center, the odds of having a big season are high. I look for him to post high numbers.

Most say that the big question mark is the young offensive line. I disagree. You do not have to worry about the offensive line with Dan Scheible as O-line coach. The big question mark lurks in the linebacking corps.

Can Kqorea Willis fill the shoes of Richard Jordan?

Can Jarrett Cook fill the shoes of Matt Wehner?

I predict the Lions will go 7-3.

• I look forward to the tandem of Gockley and Gockley (Stephanie and Jeana) terrorizing MIAA opponents. With Jeana setting for her sister, the Lady Lions cannot go wrong. You know what they say — those who grow together flow together.

With a great supporting cast and great coach, this team should hold its own atop the MIAA.

• I have two words for the Lion soccer team — Todd Eaton.

He led the league in scoring two years ago, and although he had to take a year off, he and the Lions are hungry and ready to eat (on) MIAA opposition.

• The return of All-American Sonia Blacketer and Amanda Harrison will make for a good women's cross country team. John Wilks, Dusty Franks, and Jason Kocks will head the men's team.

There you have it. The call is over, and by now the wagon should be loaded.

Remember that no one gets on and no one gets off once we pull away from the terminal. Keep your seat belt securely fastened at all times. Thank you and enjoy your ride. □

FALL SPORTS

Soccer, volleyball win season openers

Soccer kicks off season with proficient defense

By GINNY DUMOND
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Starting the season off on the right foot, the Missouri Southern soccer Lions brought home a victory and a tie against out-of-state schools last weekend.

"I think we started off real well," sophomore forward Ryan Ruper said. "Both teams were really good."

In its first game the squad kept Southern Indiana scoreless in a 4-0 win. Senior forward Todd Eaton, who has returned to the team after being academically ineligible last season, had two goals in the game. Senior midfielder Justin Buerge and sophomore forward Scott Sill had one each. Eaton, Ruper, and Sill each picked up an assist as well.

The Lions' next match-up pitted them against the University of Southern Illinois-Eduardsville. After two sudden-death overtimes, the game was called a tie at 2-2.

"SIUE had beaten Kentucky, a Division I school, 3-0 earlier in the season," Ruper said. "That game could have easily have gone either way; we could have easily beaten them."

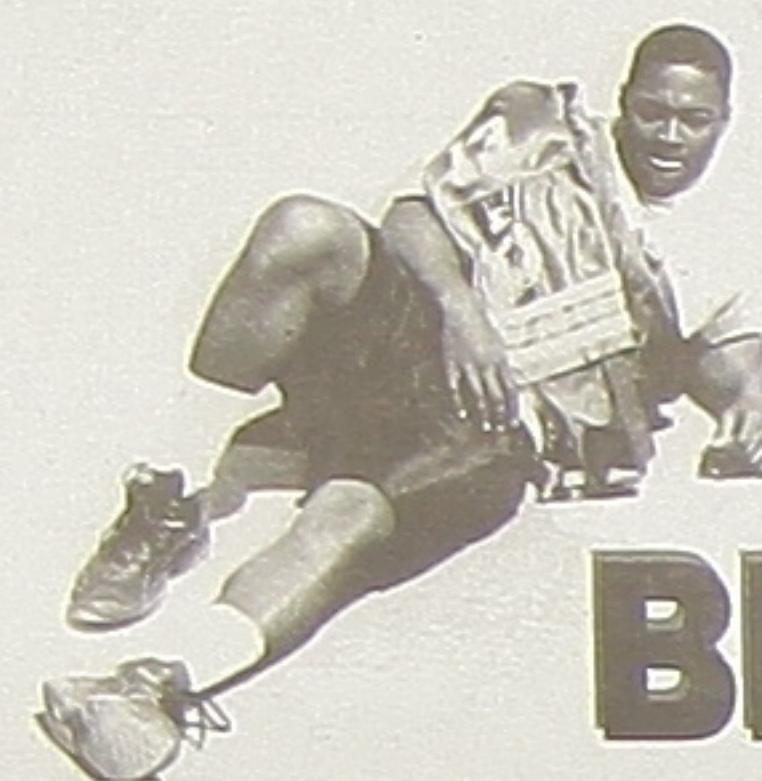
In the SIUE game, the two goals came from Ruper and junior defenseman Adam Bahr with assists from Eaton and sophomore midfielder Josh Yarnell.

The key to this season so far has been defense, according to both Eaton and Ruper.

"Our defense just played incredible," Eaton said. "Kiley Cirillo is a really good freshman, and Tom Holland, Ryan Huntley, and Matt Penner are definitely people teams are going to have to go against all year."

Ruper agreed. "We are a real good, real fast defense," he said. "I think the teams are going to have a hard time scoring against us."

The team will be playing at 1 p.m. Saturday at Lincoln University. □



File Photo

Jordan and Thrash: From Missouri Southern to the NFL. Both recently signing professional contracts, they are...

BIG TIME NOW

Thrash surprises many, earns roster spot with big returns

By NICK PARKER
MANAGING EDITOR

Six months ago, as the sun was setting on the collegiate careers of two Missouri Southern Lions, dawn brought with it the culmination of life-long dreams.

Defensive end Richard Jordan and wide receiver James Thrash spent much of last spring working out for pro scouts and their respective teams.

Jordan was rewarded for his efforts with a seventh-round pick in the draft by the Detroit Lions. Thrash signed as free agent with Philadelphia after the draft.

The Eagles released Thrash just prior to camp; he promptly signed with the Washington Redskins. Since the start of preseason camps Thrash has been touted as one of the top surprise rookies in the league.

Thrash made his presence known with his first kickoff return, going 91 yards for a touchdown.

The Redskins immediately gave the rookie a spot on their punt return team and additional playing time.

In a match-up against the Tennessee Oilers, Thrash ran a kickoff back 96 yards for a score and then added another return for 36 yards. He also had two receptions for 17 and 35 yards.

Jordan made the final cut for this year's Detroit team but was placed on waivers a day later when the Lions picked up another player on waivers. Jordan subsequently signed on with Detroit's practice squad.

Southern head football coach Jon Lantz is confident that both Jordan and Thrash will see action during their NFL rookie seasons.

"I'm guessing Rich [Jordan] will be activated at some point during this sea-

son," Lantz said. "You just don't make it through a 16-week schedule in that league without having some kind of injury to your linebackers. Both have great attitudes and good work ethic."

Jordan and Thrash join fellow Southern alum Rod Smith in the pro ranks. Smith, a third-year receiver for the Denver Broncos, was a member of the 1993 MIAA championship team at Southern.

Between Thrash and Jordan, many expected Jordan to be the one to make the quickest impact. Thrash has been the surprise of the two.

"I'm not going to lie to you," Lantz said. "He is a surprise. He was not a dominant player in Division II football. Most scouts and recruits say you need to be a dominant D-II player to make it in the NFL."

"But, he has the one other thing that separates him from about 99 percent of the population: speed. Look at him, he's 6-2, 215 pounds, and has world class speed. He's worth it for a team to wait on his development."

Even Thrash has appeared surprised at his success.

"I've got to pinch myself," he said in an interview with *The Washington Post*.

"It's hard to imagine how it has turned out. I just thank God for the opportunity. I've had great blocks on the kickoff returns." □

Richard Jordan (left), and James Thrash, shown here in his Washington Redskins uniform, are former Missouri Southern football standouts currently making names for themselves in the NFL.

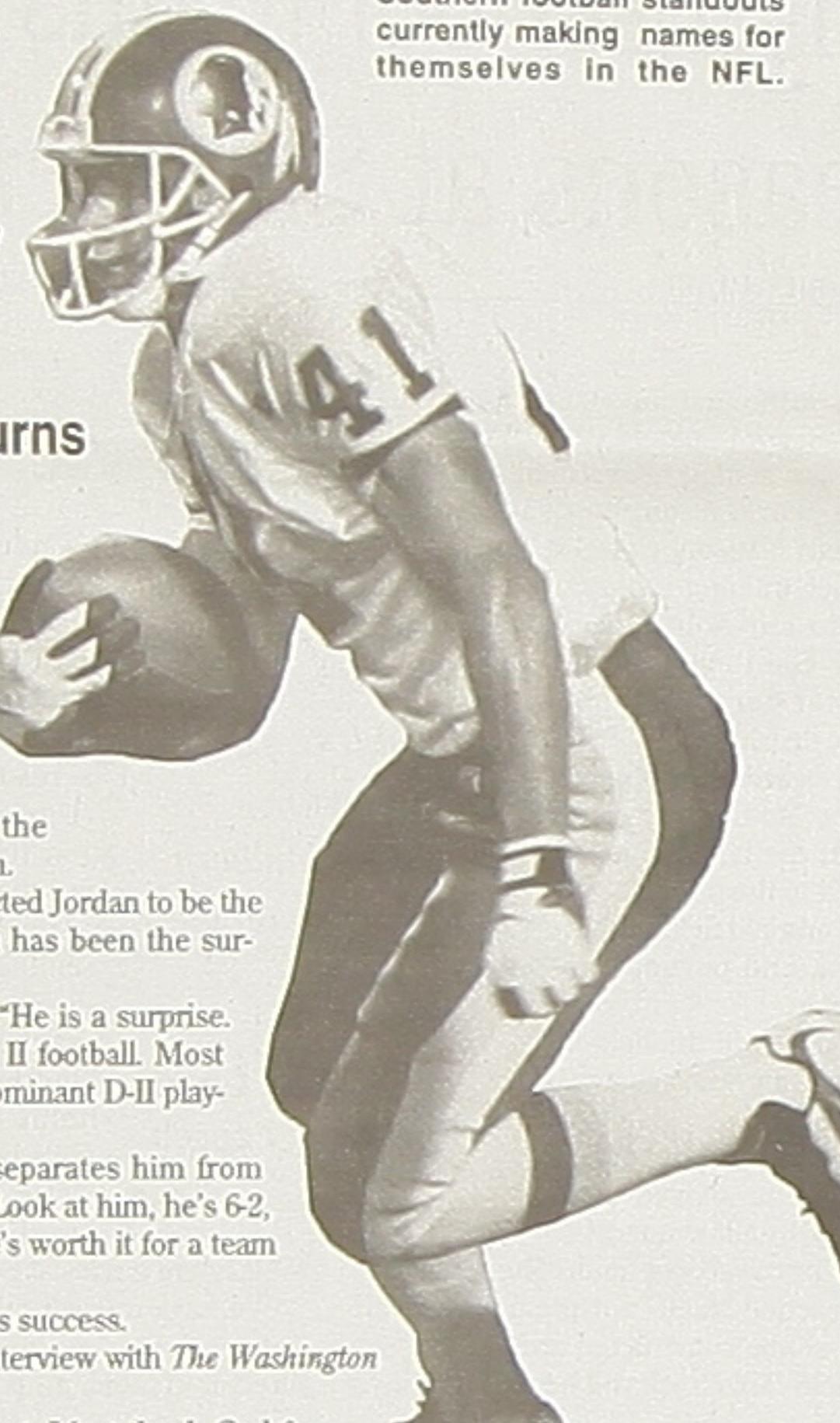


Photo Special to The Chart

Scoreboard**Football****Volleyball****Soccer****Pre-season MIAA poll**

(1996 conf. record)	
1. Pittsburgh State (7)	8-1
2. Northwest Missouri (1)	8-1
3. Missouri Southern	5-4
4. Central Missouri State (2)	2-7
5. Truman State	7-2
6. Emporia State	5-4
7. Missouri Western	5-4
8. Washburn	4-5
9. Missouri-Rolla	1-8
10. Southwest Baptist	0-9

MSTV presents Southern Sports Sunday with hosts Rick Rogers and Jake Griffin**Where to Catch the Lions and Lady Lions:**

Chartnet...www.mssc.edu/schats/comm/chart

Missouri Southern Sports Network...107.1 FM (Joplin)

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**This week****Friday**

■ Volleyball Lady Lions in Missouri Southern/St. John's

Saturday

■ Volleyball Lady Lions in Missouri Southern/St. John's

■ Cross Country plays host to Missouri Southern Invitational

Next week**Saturday**

■ Lady Lion volleyball plays at Truman State

■ Cross Country at Kansas University

■ Lion football vs. Northeastern (Okla.) State University, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

■ Lady Lion volleyball play at home against

Graduates encourage student participation in events

By J.L. GRIFFIN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Missouri Southern's Alumni Association has new baby brother, the Student Alumni Association.

Approved by the alumni board during the spring, the new branch of alumni affairs was formed in an attempt to garner support for alumni activities while students are still in school.

"Part of [the alumni board's] revised goals was to get in touch with current students because students are future alumni," said Lee Elliff Pound, director of alumni affairs.

Pound said many colleges and universities around the country are starting similar programs.

"It was one of Lee's dreams," said

Cindy Cook, president of the student group. "We found sites on the Internet about the subject."

To start the program, Pound said she sent out memos to faculty across the campus to nominate students for the group. She said 20 applications were returned. Of those 20 applicants, four were chosen to leadership roles.

Beside Cook, a senior English education major, John Smith, a senior accounting major, serves as vice president. Michelle McCasland, secretary, and Jennifer Daniels, treasurer, are both senior business administration majors.

"All we have to do is go before the Student Senate at the end of the month to get recognized," Pound said.

Pound and Cook said the most important thing to remember about this club is that any student can be a

member. There aren't any dues either.

"We're never going to have dues because we want to be a service organization," Pound said.

Serving the students includes offering items like coupon cards that can be used at a number of local establishments.

Like any good club, the Student Alumni Association started schmoozing the freshmen first by offering free T-shirts to the new crop of College students.

"Our alumni board is very anxious to get students involved in the process," Cook said.

Not yet officially recognized as a group, Cook said the alumni board has given the group \$5,000 in start-up funds. The next mission of the group, Cook said, is to bring in new members. □

TECHNOLOGY

Southern's new e-mail system pleases many campus users

By JALYN HIGGINS
STAFF WRITER

friendly than the last one," he said.

Lovland-Rogers said the last system was difficult to use.

"I only use it once a week," she said, "but I may use it more since it is easier to use."

Southern has a campus licensing system with Novell. The College pays one large sum to Novell each year for a large package of software. The old e-mail system was deleted off the main frame and replaced with the new one.

Every student has the opportunity to open an e-mail account. Interested students may inquire in Room 222 of Matthews Hall. A responsibility form must be signed before a user ID and a password are issued. The computer center provides an instruction sheet on using the software for every student. □

PARKING: Security chief warns drivers to be more careful where they park in coming days

From Page 1A

showed up 20 minutes early for class you could find a spot, but not anymore."

There are 3,650 parking spots on campus, including the residence halls, and 422 spots for faculty parking, according to Boyer. A large portion of those spots are

located in the large gravel lot near Fred G. Hughes Stadium.

"We always see a lot of parking congestion at the beginning of a semester," said Bob Beeler, director of the physical plant. "We know that in a couple of weeks the problem will diminish greatly."

Enrollment numbers for this semester will not be released until

later this month, but they are expected to be up from last fall's count of 5,258, according to Dr. Delores Honey, director of assessment and institutional research. The increase in enrollment comes after several years of decline, with a high of 6,012 in 1990.

The number of staff and faculty on campus, 525, also outnumber available

spots.

With the construction of the new criminal justice building and field house, there will be some new spots added, but not any large numbers, Beeler said. Everyone who parks on campus is required to register their vehicles with campus security, Boyer said. Since the establishment of the decal system about eight years ago,

there have been 36,000 decals issued to commuter students. Residence hall students and faculty and staff have only recently started receiving the parking decals. Each group has been assigned 4,700.

"We don't require people to turn the decals back in, so the only way we can estimate how many cars are

parking on campus is to look at

enrollment," Boyer said.

Even with the rush during the first week of school, there are always spots available, Beeler said. Some just are not as convenient as others.

But for now McDonald has found a solution to her parking problem.

"I just get up earlier and consider the long walk to class my exercise for the day," she said. □

FIELD HOUSE: New facility coming

From Page 1A

to be finished by the spring of 1999.

"The new cafeteria will be much better for the resident students to not have to walk across campus," Tiede said.

Doug Carnahan, dean of students, said he is anxious for construction of the cafeteria to begin.

"We've been pushing for this for a long time," he said. "It was originally supposed to be a part of the SLC."

The original plan for the SLC was to include

a second floor for a cafeteria, but money ran out, Carnahan said.

"Our current cafeteria really is too small and inadequate," Carnahan said. "And location-wise it's not in a good place for resident students."

Plans for the existing cafeteria in Billingsly Student Center haven't been made. Carnahan and Tiede both thought the snack bar in the basement might get moved upstairs to make room for bookstore expansion.

"We want to hash out plans for both areas," Carnahan said. □

TRAVEL: Doors are opening for all to study abroad

From Page 1A

support the mission, Bitterbaum said. Much of that money has gone to salaries for new faculty. The funding also purchased foreign publications for Southern students and supports the International Language Resource Center, the Language Village, the International Trade Center, and other special programs, he said.

"I would not have been able to take my trip without help from the international mission," said B.J. Allen, junior criminal justice major, who traveled to London

and Paris with a group from the criminal justice department. "I have a much better appreciation of our own country and I have a better understanding of how people in other countries live."

Last year a letter of explanation and application was circulated throughout the College informing students and faculty of the funds available for international travel.

The College plans to follow the same process this year, Bitterbaum said.

The International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) is also funded through international mission funds. It is a unique

program offering Southern students the opportunity to spend a semester or year studying abroad for the cost of tuition and room and board at Southern, Bitterbaum explained.

"I think it will be fun to look back in five years and see how far we have come," he said.

The returning students and faculty will help find ways to incorporate the international mission into all facets of Southern, Bitterbaum said.

"I would think that if there is any way possible, no one should pass up the opportunity to travel," Allen said. □

JASPER COUNTY SUPPORT SERVICES

MAKING OPPORTUNITIES HAPPEN FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Jasper County Support Service is a non-profit agency serving over 400 persons with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities. We offer community based programs and services including: residential programs (group homes), supported living, residential assistance, day programs, respite services, leisure services and summer camp. We employ over 140 staff in both full time and part time positions.

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INSTRUCTORS RECEIVE STUDY GRANTS TO EXPERIENCE A TASTE OF COUNTRY

BY DR. CHAD STEBBINS
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF JOURNALISM

As part of the overall internationalizing of Missouri Southern, Dr. Mark Comstock and I received a marvelous opportunity at the end of the spring semester — a visit to St. Petersburg and Moscow, Russia.

We received faculty study grants to attend a seminar titled "Russia Through the Eyes of the Media: Reform and the New Social Landscape." CIEE, the Council on International Educational Exchange, sponsored the week-long seminar along with the Russian-American Press and Information Center (RAPIC). It was my first time to go abroad, but Mark, an assistant professor of accounting, had been to England in April.

Mark flew from Chicago to Moscow via Aeroflot on May 24 for a week of sightseeing on his own. I took the CIEE flight on Air France from New York to Paris to St. Petersburg on May 31. Three other Missourians were among our group of 18: Dr. Gary Brock, an associate professor of sociology at Southwest Missouri State University; Debra Greene, an instructor of history at Lincoln University; and Karen Dubrule, a native of St. Louis and the CIEE representative who accompanied us.

Lodgings: In St. Petersburg, we stayed four nights at the Hotel Moskva, your typical Soviet monstrosity. Guidebooks described it as "unimaginative and depressing," which turned out to be accurate.

Once you exited the elevator, you had to walk the equivalent of several blocks before reaching your room. We had hot water for showers half the time; on other occasions, the tap water was brown and left a gritty residue in the sink. We initially had a bar of soap in the room, but the hotel maids removed it one morning while cleaning. A request to the "floor lady" for more soap did not produce any, but fortunately my roommate and I each had packed a bar.

A word about the water: St. Petersburg's water is drawn from Lake Ladoga and the Neva River, where large farms and heavy industries dump their waste. Tests allegedly conducted on the city's water supply by a commission of the Paris Health Department found that one of every 20 test tubes extracted from the city's drinking water supply contained hepatitis A. The drinking water supply also contained 200 times the acceptable level of the bacteria that causes dysentery and from double to triple the minimum world standard levels of heavy metals.

Scenery: St. Petersburg is a beautiful city, covering

more than 100 islands and crisscrossed by more than 60 rivers and canals. It reminds many visitors of Venice and others of Rome and Paris. I particularly enjoyed Palace Square, the site of many famous events in Russian history. One entire side of the enormous Square is the General Staff Building, the longest building in Europe. On the other side is the Winter Palace, which was the residence of Catherine the Great and other Russian czars. The Winter Palace is now the Hermitage Museum, one of the world's largest art museums. We saw paintings by Van Gogh and Picasso and Michelangelo's "Crouching Boy" statue during a two-hour visit one afternoon. Supposedly, a person who spent one minute viewing each object on display would need an entire year to see everything.

Russia is known for its many breathtaking cathedrals topped by onion domes of various designs and colors. We saw countless ones during our week-long stay, but the most magnificent was the Church of the Savior on the Spilled Blood in St. Petersburg. The cathedral was built at the turn of the century as a tribute to Tsar Alexander II. The church's altar stands on the spot the tsar was assassinated by a terrorist bomb in 1881.

The alphabet and language: Many signs were written both in Latin and the Russian Cyrillic alphabet. You could often figure out something that appeared in Latin, but Cyrillic was a different story. One afternoon in St. Petersburg, Mark and I decided to walk to the Peter and Paul Fortress. Coming back, we decided it would be much faster to take the subway, as there was a stop at our hotel. Once we had purchased a token and entered the subway, we were lost. The signs were entirely in Cyrillic. Mark had a detailed map of St. Petersburg that included a layout of the subway, but we were unable to match anything on his map with what we saw. Although no one around us spoke English, I came up with the idea of pointing to the stop we needed on Mark's map and asking for help. The person we asked indicated the way we needed to go and held up two fingers for two stops. Once we were actually on the subway, we showed the map to another person who confirmed that we were indeed heading in the right direction. Once we exited, we took a right turn thinking that was the way to go. A woman who had been riding the subway with us grabbed us and pointed us to the corridor that led to our hotel.

It is possible to survive in Russia speaking only English. Many of the waiters are quite fluent, as are the street vendors. Our hosts, guides, and interpreters all spoke good English, so there wasn't a language barrier. There is a movement in Russia to preserve the purity of the Russian language, which President Yeltsin and others claim is being spoiled by American and other Western advertisements. The mayor of Moscow, Yury Luzhkov, has ordered shop signs to be in Russian only and goods in shops to carry mandatory descriptions in Russian.

Russian political parties: In St. Petersburg, one of our seminars focused on the many different political parties. Representatives from 11 different ones spoke to us; there are now at least 60 parties in Russia. There is even a registered Beer Drinkers Party, which ran a candidate in the last election. Most interesting to me was the Bolshevik Communist Party, which still gets about 15 percent of the vote. The representative who spoke to us talked of restoring the former Soviet Union, with force if necessary. He pointed out that under the Bolsheviks, Russia had been transformed from a backwards agricultural nation to one that launched the space age.

Other observations: I was struck by the number of men who smoked. In Moscow, two officials even lit up while speaking to our group, which bothered those who were especially sensitive to cigarette smoke. We saw numerous Western cigarette ads on billboards.

Thirty-two percent of all male deaths in Russia can be attributed to tobacco usage, and the life expectancy for Russian males has dropped to 58 years. The anti-smoking campaigns really haven't kicked in yet.

I recall seeing many more homeless people in the large U.S. cities than in St. Petersburg and Moscow. We encountered a few children and elderly women begging for money, but not a substantial amount. (One woman in St. Petersburg did "bless" our bus in exchange for a few dollars.) We didn't get to go to the rural areas, where the standard of living is much lower. We were told that it takes a minimum of 1 million rubles a month to live in Russia. Most people hold two or three jobs in order to make that or a little more. College professors, incidentally, make about 1.1 million rubles a month (about \$200), the same wage as floor and office cleaners. Retired people have a very difficult problem, because the

average pension is only \$50 a month. Most still have to work in order to support themselves.

Comstock's thoughts: Russia proved to be an extraordinary nation in the midst of a dynamic period of change. One of the most interesting things about contemporary Russia is the rapidly evolving political and economic environment. There is an enormous divide between capitalists and communists. The communists are primarily older citizens. To many Russians, capitalism means unlimited profiteering without principles or law. This fundamental misunderstanding of capitalism has resulted in growth in organized crime. On the other side of the spectrum are the communists. The communists whom I met, who now wish to be called "Bolsheviks," have among their declared goals the Russian reacquisition of Alaska.

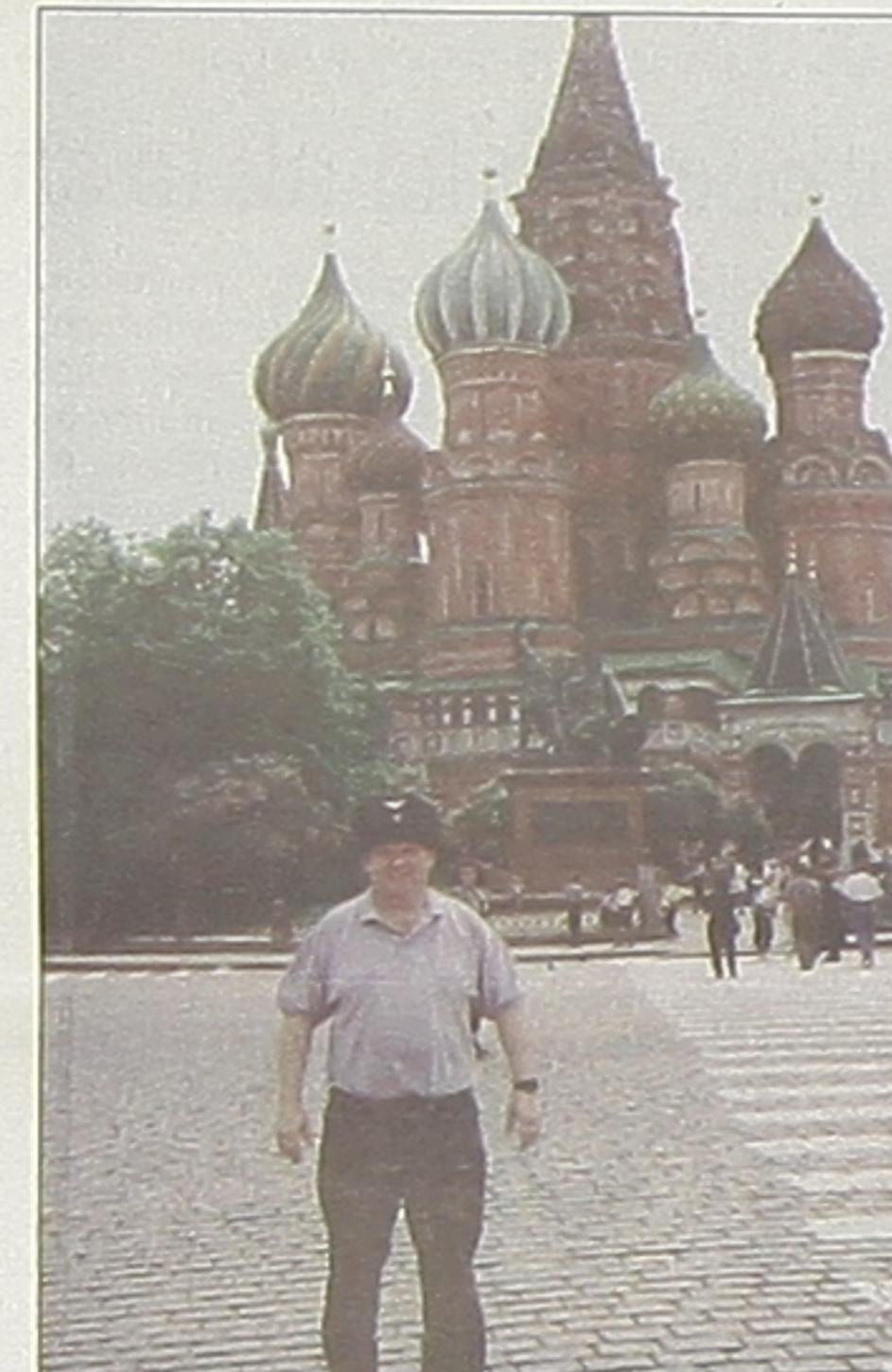
One of the most interesting things I noticed about the people of Russia was a great interest in spiritual thought and activities. After 75 years of official atheism, the people I met expressed an enormous interest in western churches and religious perspectives. Essentially, the only religious organization in the parts of Russia that I visited was the Russian Orthodox Church. I found this interest in religion to be a recurring theme among the Russians with whom I had conversations.

The American embassy assisted me in providing information for Joplin businesses who are interested in doing business in Russia. Embassy personnel were courteous and helpful. Each morning, a line stretched for blocks from the embassy door. These were people trying to get permission to emigrate to the USA.

Everyday life in Russia is much more primitive and difficult than that in the United States. The finest Russian highways between cities are overwhelmingly two-lane roads without shoulders. Faculty members at Moscow State University, one of the nation's most prestigious learning institutions, share a desk among three or more professors.

The selection of consumer goods is limited and of poor quality, except for the wealthiest of shoppers. Public buildings are in a state of decay. There are almost no single-family dwellings in the cities that I visited; everyone lives in apartments that are small by American standards. Many of the people live in fear of the military and the police, who insist on being treated as superiors.

The primary reaction that I had after visiting Russia was an increased appreciation of the limits and dangers of state control. Seventy-five years of state control has left the economy in a shambles and the infrastructure undeveloped — this in a nation where central planning was supposed to be a strength. There are tremendous lessons to be learned from the Russian experiment with putting their ultimate trust in government. □



DR. CHAD STEBBINS/ Special to The Chart

Mark Comstock shows off his newly purchased shapka (Russian fur hat) in front of St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow's Red Square. St. Basil's was commissioned by Ivan the Terrible and built between 1555 and 1560 and is now a tourist spot.



DR. CHAD STEBBINS/ Special to The Chart

Dr. Chad Stebbins and Dr. Mark Comstock in front of the Assumption Cathedral in Moscow. Located in the Kremlin, the cathedral was completed in 1479. It is the burial church of many Russian religious leaders.



Four typical Russian boys in the city of Novgorod. The boys followed Stebbins and Comstock's group around one afternoon.

DR. CHAD STEBBINS
Special to The Chart

Section
B.

Eyes of the World

‘The Hong Kong
Experience’



A special supplement of *The Chart and the Institute of International Studies*

Thanks for the memories...

With our little journey safely in the history books, it's time to share our memories with all those who've wanted to know a little bit about a tiny island called Hong Kong.

This isn't just about the island, though; this is about the people who inhabit it and the people who inhabited it during a time period when the entire world was watching.

We were fortunate to be a part of that period, but this hardly due to any hard work on our part. Richard Massa, director of Missouri Southern's Institute of International Studies, was the lifeblood of this excursion.

And at times it seemed Judy Bastian was ticked off that kept the blood flowing. This wasn't a trip for just us, this was a trip for the entire campus, and it's truly a shame the previously mentioned couldn't come along to enjoy it as much as we did.

If it weren't for Mr. Massa's diligence and persistence, we all would have watched history

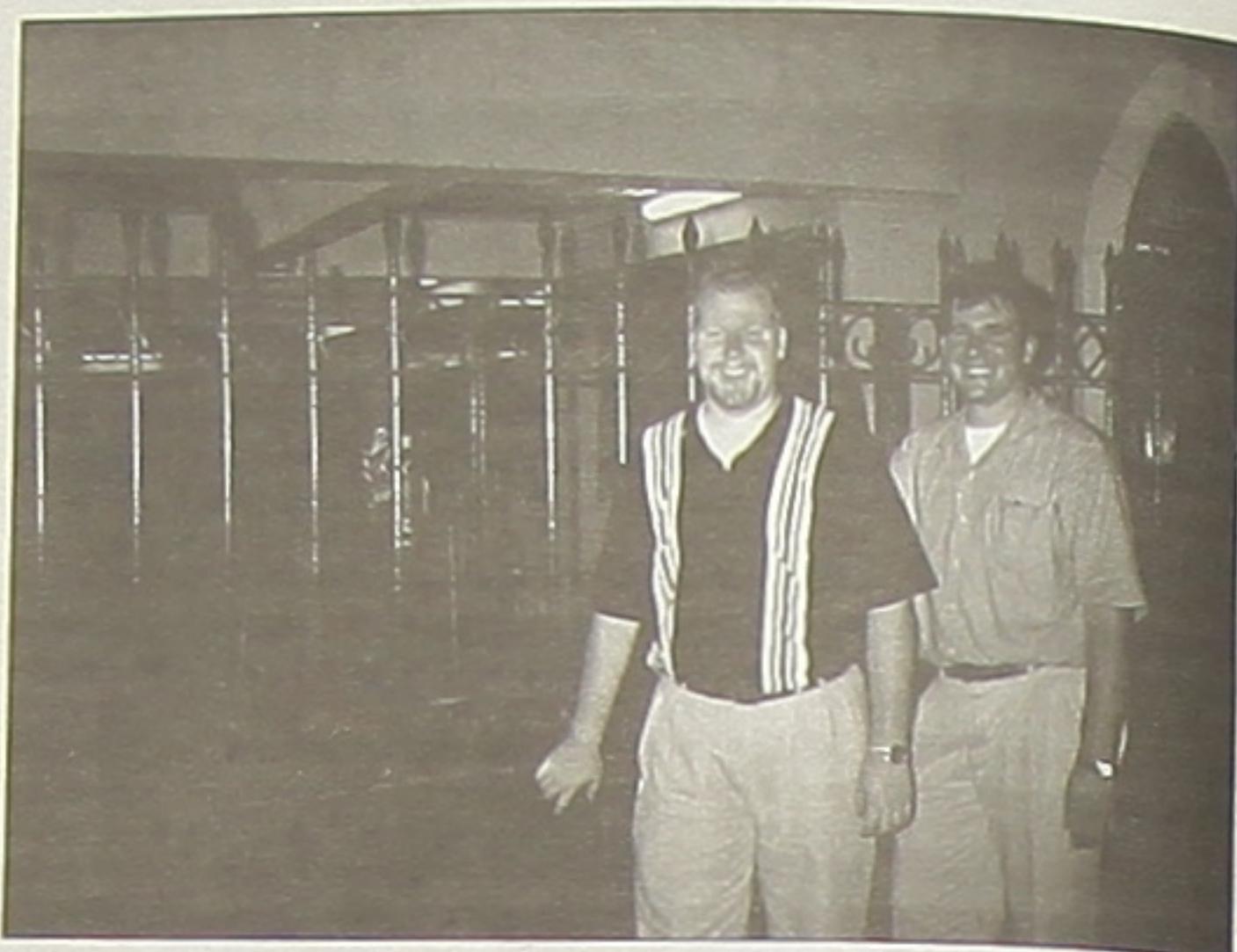
unfold while sitting on our living room couches.

Not only did Mr. Massa and Ms. Bastian put together the experience of a lifetime for two college journalists, but they introduced us to some of the greatest individuals ever to walk the Earth. A special thanks to Ken Ng, who was our guide and greatest source for story ideas. Without Mr. Ng, we would have been utterly

lost. He was an inspiration to both of us.

And last but not least, thanks to Erica Lau and Tony Doll, two Southern students who made us a little less homesick every time we saw them.

We appreciate everything everybody did for us and we hope this special supplement makes them as proud as it does us.



When the trip through China was over and we had one last day in Hong Kong before heading back to the United States, we both commented on how much we were going to miss the island once we left.

Thanks again,

Jake & Rick



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Sun sets on British rule

Thousands watch as former HK Gov. Chris Patten's reign washes away



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

Outside former Hong Kong Gov. Chris Patten's Government House, Brian Chan (left) and a man, who wished to remain nameless, display the Union Jack flag and a picture of Patten in support of their leader.

BY RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 30, 1997) — Thousands gathered on Upper Albert Road to bid their last adieu to former Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten on his final journey from the Government House Monday afternoon, June 30.

Under constant drizzle and rolling thunder, the crowd, made up of both natives and tourists, lined the street, waited along the cliffs, and even hid in the bushes, just to catch one final glimpse of Hong Kong's 28th — and final — governor as he made his way to the farewell ceremony.

After Patten took part in a ceremony which took place on the Government House front lawn, the former leader left the mansion in an English-style limousine waving his final salutations to the masses.

Robert Guertin, a 41-year-old resident of Montreal, Canada, battled through the crowds and the poor weather conditions just to witness what he thought was an important historical moment.

"I have Chinese friends, and there is a decent Chinese population in Canada, so I wanted to be here for this event," he said. "It's a peaceful handover, which is very rare in history."

After spending a few weeks in China, Guertin said the reunification of Hong Kong with China is not only cause for celebration, but a step in the right direction for a more democratic China.

"The people are very proud of the what is taking place," he said. "China is moving forward as a nation, and this is a symbol of this movement."

Brian Chan, a 20-year-old student at Hong Kong University, displayed his feelings for Patten by waving the



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

More than 1,000 people lined the streets to watch former Hong Kong Gov. Chris Patten leave Hong Kong's Government House on June 30.

Union Jack flag during his departure.

"I am here to wave the flag for Governor Patten and to make him feel glorious," he said.

As a young man studying in secondary school, the Hong Kong native said he remembered feeling proud to have Patten as governor, when he was appointed five years ago.

"He was an inspiration to me," Chan said. "I don't like him, but I like his work. I give my credit to him because he is hard working."

Chan said it is hard to realize what Patten has done for Hong Kong, because of his short term in office.

"He has changed so much," he said. "He has introduced democracy to the people of Hong Kong."

During his final address as the governor of Hong Kong at the farewell ceremony Monday evening, Patten said the island's story is not solely that of a century and a half of British responsibility, even though it is the conclusion of the chapter which is being marked tonight.

"For Hong Kong as a whole, today is cause for celebration not sorrow," Patten said. "But here and there, perhaps there will be a touch of personal

sadness as is true in any departure, a point to which I shall return."

As the British administration ends, Patten said the country's contribution to Hong Kong was to provide the scaffolding that enabled the people to "climb to the heavens."

Patten said the base of the scaffolding was rule of law, clean and light-handed government, values of a free society, and the beginnings of a representative government and democratic accountability.

"This is a Chinese city, a very Chinese city, with British characteristics," he said. "Hong Kong's values are decent values," he said. "They are universal values. They are the values of the future of Asia as elsewhere."

Chan's feelings about his country's future paint a different picture than those of Patten.

"I am optimistic, but the future is unknown," he said. "The recent future should be good, but after that no one really knows what the Chinese may do."

"It has been the greatest honor and privilege of my life to share your home for five years," he said holding back tears. □

Foreign dignitaries meet to discuss island's, Taiwan's future

BY J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (July 3, 1997) — Seven foreign dignitaries held closed-door talks with China's foreign minister Qian Qichen on the third day after the Handover.

Afterward, Shen Guofang, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesman, said at a press conference that all had come away pleased with the meeting. United States Secretary of State Madeline Albright attended the meeting representing U.S. interests.

"Madame Albright says this is an important moment in history for China and the whole world," Shen reported.

Not much was revealed during the press conference as to what was actually discussed, but the meeting appeared to be nothing more than a formality before the Handover ceremony took place. Shen assured the assembled group that China was not looking to change Hong Kong's future.

"The policy of the Chinese government to maintain Hong Kong's prosperity remains unchanged," he said.

During the course of the meeting, the topic of Taiwan's sovereignty came up. Beijing contends Taiwan should become a part of China, while the U.S. has taken a somewhat slanted position that Taiwan should remain independent.

"Taiwan still remains as the most important and most sensitive issue in the relationship between China and America," Shen said. However, in general, Shen said the exchange between the two countries has been more positive and more frequent.

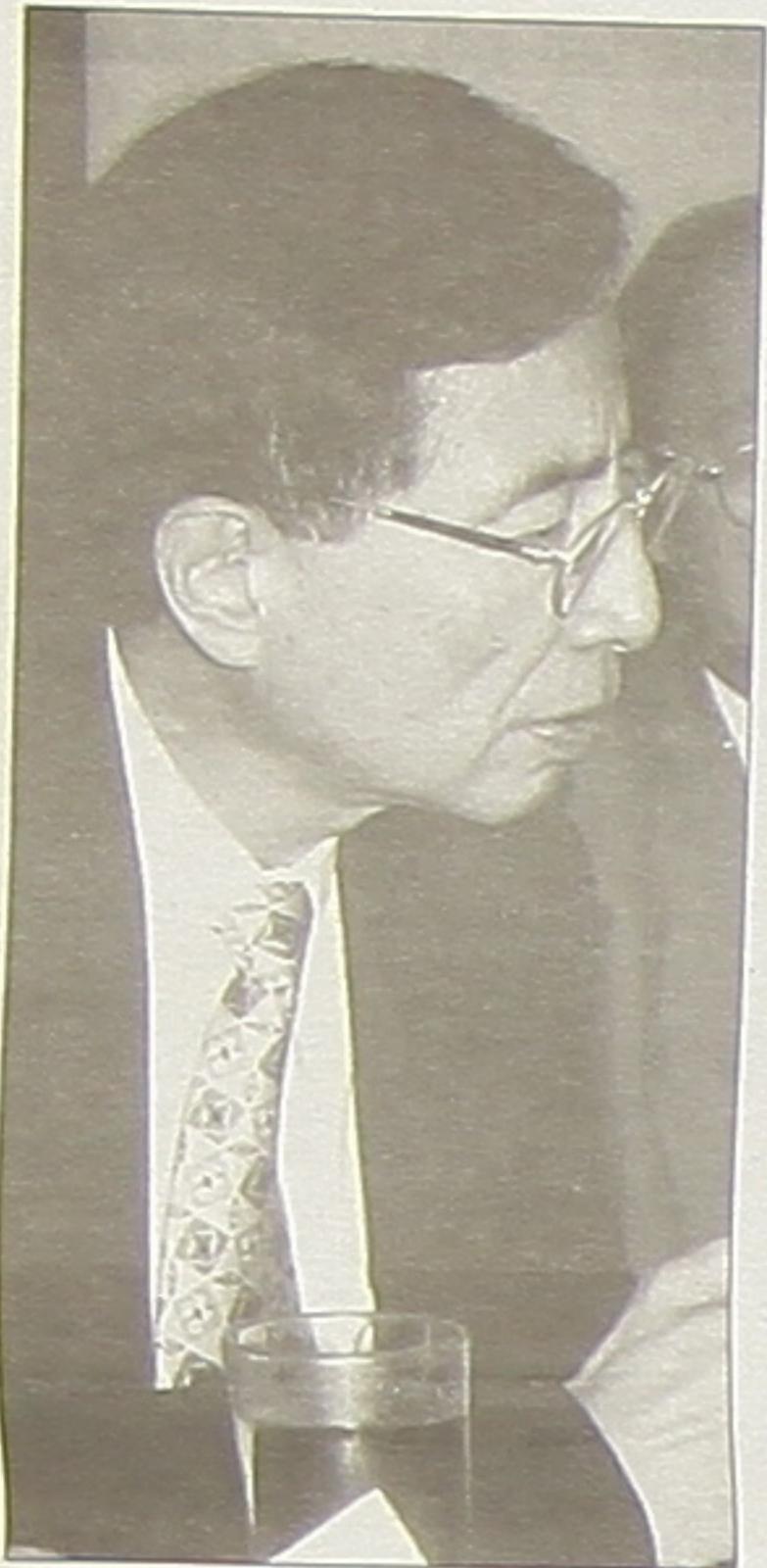
Besides the U.S., other countries involved

were Great Britain, Japan, Australia, Russia, Germany, and Portugal. Portugal received an invitation to the meeting because in two years, Macau, a sliver of the southern Chinese coastline, will fall back to Chinese control in much the same fashion as Hong Kong has this year.

Macau is not the business mecca that Hong Kong is, but it does have a very prosperous tourist industry. Portugal currently has governmental control over Macau.

"Of course Taiwan will remain an issue, but we have the full capability of solving this problem," Shen said. □

Martin Lee remains defiant to the end



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

Martin Lee said his departure from Hong Kong's legislative ranks would only be a short reprieve from government work. Lee plans to run for office again when the new government opens election in late May.

BY J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 26, 1997) — Martin Lee was his defiant self with just days left as a member of Hong Kong's Legislative Council.

"Martin Lee never says die. The flame of democracy will burn on."

Lee, leader of the Democratic Party, told *The Chart* that just because he was out of a job and will no longer be in office, he will never stop fighting for democracy in Hong Kong.

He spoke shortly after what had been expected to be the final session of Hong Kong's top law-making body, but several bills remained to be passed and so the Legislative Council remained in session longer.

"We will be present at the Handover ceremony and then our legislators will all rush back. The intention is that we will enter this building and go to the first-floor balcony where we will be addressing the people down there," Lee said. "I hope our way will not be blocked, because we are not going to change our minds about that."

Lee said he had a contingency plan in case they were not permitted to enter the building.

"If they block the way then I already have a long ladder ready and you will see me climbing up the ladder like Romeo," he said.

The Shakespearean allusions did

not end with Lee's plans for after the Handover ceremony. He also quoted the bard when discussing Great Britain's and the United States' decisions to send junior diplomats to the provisional government's swearing-in ceremony. Both countries had said earlier that they would not send delegations to the ceremony.

"The British policy is somewhat bewildering to me," Lee said. "I can't put it better than to quote Shakespeare, 'To be or not be; that is the question.'

The Democratic Party will be the hardest hit by the installation of provisional government, while the second most powerful party in LEGCO, the Liberal Party, will gain the most. The pro-Chinese Liberal Party will keep their current members on the new government, while all Democratic Party lawmakers will lose their posts.

Critics of Lee's have said the legislation that is currently being debated is being bulldozed through without much care. Lee agrees, but he said there is a good reason for that.

"I feel betrayed. I feel cheated. When we were preparing for the election in 1995 we were told it would be for four years," he said. "I agree that some of these bills are being rushed. Some of them were never considered carefully by bill committees. It's only because we are being thrown out.

Our term of office is being cut short."

However, this move to enact legislation is seen by opponents as a lame duck maneuver because the provisional government will have the power to amend any of the recently passed legislation, and they have made no secret of their plans to do just that.

"They are rushing jobs, but we have to face the fact that some members don't care," said Allen Lee, head of the Liberal Party.

Not so long ago, the Liberal Party leader himself doubted whether China should regain control over the affairs of Hong Kong, but he has since changed his mind.

"What changed my mind was in 15 years China has come a long way," Allen Lee said. "There was a vast movement in economic development. At least now, people can talk about free enterprise."

His Democratic counterpart does not want any Chinese involvement in Hong Kong. Martin Lee believes it will be impossible for his party to have the same kind of influence it has now because of changes in the election laws. Changes that favor pro-Chinese interests.

"It's certainly a sandbag for democracy," he said. "And it won't be the last because the Hong Kong people have seen democracy work."

Dr. Anthony Cheung, vice chairman of the Democratic Party, said the best thing for Hong Kong was for China to have little input.

"If China is prepared to leave Hong Kong alone, I'm sure we'll be more than adequate," he said.

Allen Lee said he believes the best thing for China is to see how Hong Kong operates. Already Mainland China has begun to be more open.

"I think political reform will follow," he said. "They have one huge problem now, and that's corruption."

Martin Lee is worried the British will forget about Hong Kong once the Handover is complete.

"I think the British government has a contractual duty to make sure the Chinese live up to their end of the bargain," Martin Lee said.

The Chinese end is the slogan, "One country, two systems." The Liberal Party leader said he thinks that slogan will be forgotten in the coming years as China realizes it can be run like Hong Kong.

"China will be the focal point of the world," Allen Lee said.

Although they may not all be called lawmakers after July 1, many of LEGCO's members will continue to help mold the political climate in Hong Kong. The provisional government was set to hold its first session July 9. □

Democratic leader addresses supporters at marina

BY J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 30, 1997) — Under the watchful eyes of several Hong Kong policemen, Martin Lee addressed more than 300 Democratic Party followers and almost 100 reporters near the Star Ferry dock in Kowloon on the night of the Handover.

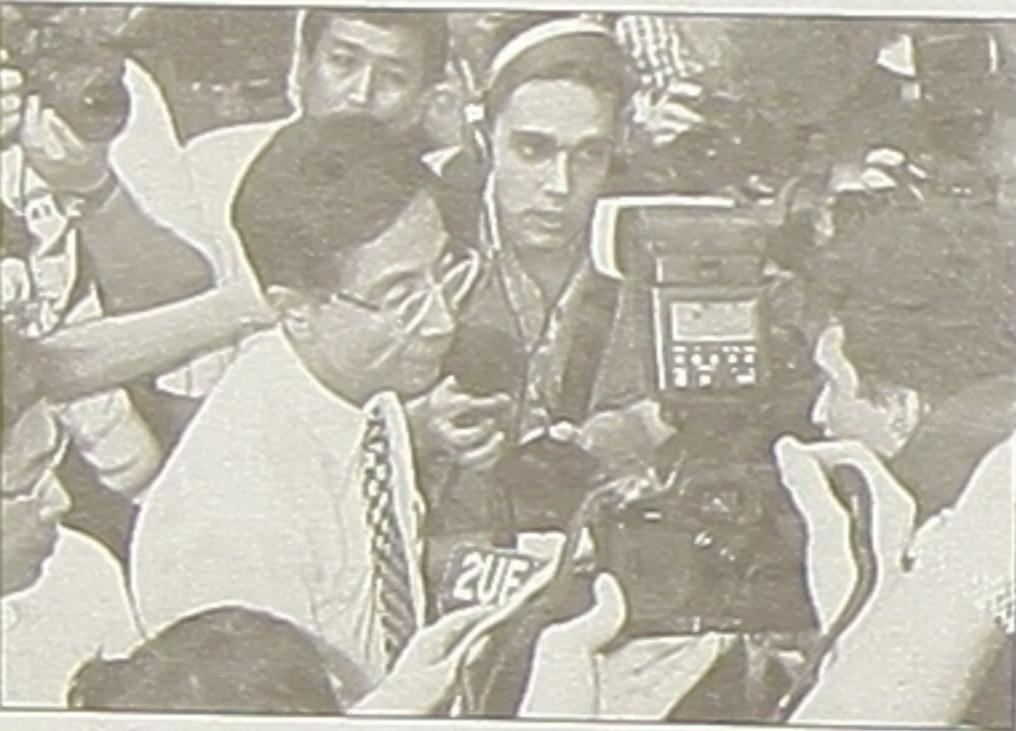
Lee, a former member of the now defunct Hong Kong Legislative Council, was flanked by a few other ex-lawmakers and a Chinese man who said he was a former member of China's People's Liberation Army.

The man said the PLA was bogged down by corruption and soldiers were forced to give up their values. Lee finished up the rally taking questions from the media. He said Hong Kong has reason to worry about the PLA's entry into Hong Kong.

"They are coming in by air, by land, and by sea. It's as if they are invading Hong Kong," he said. "They will only frighten the people."

The crowd was generally roped off into an area along the dock. In a thin line of seated protesters reaching 100 yards from where Lee was seated, they sat quietly and attentively, sporadically breaking into applause for the party leader.

Lee addressed the audience in both Chinese and English.



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Martin Lee greets reporters after an appearance at the Star Ferry pier hours before such protests would be banned.

He spoke of the incoming provisional legislature as people who were not fit to run the island.

"We are being replaced by those who we defeated in the last election," he said, "and by those who didn't dare run against us."

Lee had been an elected member of LEGCO since 1985. He

is a barrister (lawyer) and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1979. He has been recognized several times for his work promoting human rights. In 1995 the American Bar Association presented Lee with the International Human Rights Award, and just this April he was awarded the National Endowment for Democracy's 1997 Democracy Award at a Capitol Hill ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Lee has been the loudest voice against Chinese involvement in governmental affairs after the Handover. His Democratic Party, he said, fully supports the return of sovereignty, but not the Chinese involvement.

The provisional government will be changing the electoral laws," Lee said. "They will make it impossible for us to have the same effect in government as we did."

LEGCO disbanded Saturday and the provisional government will be sworn-in almost immediately after the Handover ceremonies are completed. Some political pundits expect the new legislature to begin amending standing laws on the same day they are sworn in.

Lee won't have the chance to be in office again until elections are held next May; he is planning on running currently.

Sunday's rally will be one of the last of its kind since Chinese laws prohibit similar protests.

Lee has said he will fight for democracy even while he is not in office. □

Demonstrators give it one last try

Time runs out for protesting legally

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 27, 1997) — As the days count down until the Handover of Hong Kong to China, the British Free Tibet Campaign and Australian Tibet Council put in a last-ditch effort to get their message across the island's citizens.

Activist unfurled an 8-meter by 6-meter Tibetan flag, emblazoned with the words "Free Tibet," in Hong Kong's Central District early Friday morning, June 27. The display of the flag is banned in Tibet.

Nearly 47 years ago, 40,000 Chinese soldiers entered Tibet and took control of the country by force. Tibet enjoyed independence in the period of 1911-1950 before falling under Chinese control. Hong Kong and Tibet were both recognized as having special status in the 1936 Treaty of Chongqing when Great Britain gave up all extra-territorial rights to China, with the exception of Hong Kong, as it was leased, and Tibet, since the British did not recognize Chinese empowerment over Tibet.

"We have unfurled this flag today to remind the world of the continuing oppression of the Tibetan people," Alison Reynolds, director of the British Free Tibet Campaign, said.

For nearly 50 years, Tibetan people have endured execution, persecution, and torture for exercising their freedom of expression — a right highly valued in Hong Kong according to Reynolds.

"To speak out publicly about Tibet will be illegal here in less than 90 hours," Dorji Dolma, a native of Tibet, said in the Statue Square. "The issue of Tibet has been marginalized in Hong Kong for too long."

Reynolds said she thinks the situations currently present in Tibet could become evident in Hong Kong after the Handover.

"It seems freedom of expression has been coat-tailed here in Hong Kong for many, many years," Reynolds said. "It is really



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

With less than 90 hours left to legally protest along the streets of British Hong Kong before the Handover on July 1, Alison Reynolds, director of the British Free Tibet Campaign, discusses her group's efforts with a HK police officer.

important for people to exercise their freedom of expression."

Albert Chang, democratic party member of Hong Kong's Legislative Council, believes there are no similarities between the takeover of Tibet and the Handover of Hong Kong.

"There's really a difference, because Tibet is still governed by China, and the Chinese internal politics," Chang said. "But in Hong Kong we have the Joint Declaration, and the Joint Declaration is an international agreement signed by China and also Britain."

The Joint Declaration is recognized by many countries, includ-

ing the United States, whereas a similar agreement between China and Tibet was not internationally recognized.

During her organization's protest, Reynolds met some opposition from members of the Hong Kong police while displaying the Tibetan flag along the cobblestone walkway of Statue Square. "They are not exceptionally happy that we are here doing this," Reynolds said. "But they are not telling us that we have to leave."

Getting their beliefs across before the Handover was important to the campaign. "This is our message," she said. □

They don't call him 'Iron Crotch' for nothing

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (July 3, 1997) — Master Tze Tan Chan is nuts about weightlifting — literally.

The 50-year-old Daoist and martial arts expert practices his medicine and beliefs, including Qi Gong, the art of lifting weights with his testicles, in a plain, small flat located on Nathan Road in Kowloon. The entrance to his flat is lined with books on religion and a variety of medicines and wines to cure illness, along with an area where he practices his special skill.

Chan said Qi is the most important strength in the body, and without Qi a person has no energy to perform life's daily chores.

"It (Qi Gong) trains you to have more energy," Chan said. "You can lose your strength slowly, so with Qi you can pace yourself. You practice Qi Gong in order to get your energy back."

So, why the testicles? "Because the strongest part of the male's body is the testicles," Chan said.

The energy mainly comes from the testicles. The hormone that comes from the testicles is the strongest hormone of mankind."

Even though Chan admits as a man gets older his testicles, and its hormone, testosterone,

become weaker, it still hasn't stopped him from practicing his art heading into his golden years. Less than one year ago, Chan lifted 159 kilograms in one attempt. He said he lifts weights of fewer than 50 kilograms two to three times a week to keep up his strength.

But don't misunderstand him. Chan doesn't pull out the weights just at parties, he considers his skill a strict outlet of his religion — despite how bewildering the outlet may be.

"I do not do this for show," he said. "I do this in my practice of Daoism."

Despite the stress and strain his weightlifting may cause on his testicles, Chan said his sex life has suffered no negative effects.

"It has made me stronger," he said with a slyish grin, "because of the Qi Gong. The whole thing is better, because the energy is more powerful."

The twice-married Chan, the father of four daughters and one son, said he does not perform to attract women.

"That is not the goal," Chan said. "I practice this to maintain my good health. The goal of Qi is to live a long life and to live healthy. If you live 100 years, that is still a short life. I do this to become stronger on the inside, not the outside."

As many normal weightlifters are hampered

by a variety of pulled muscles while pumping iron in local gyms, Chan has been able to steer clear of any injuries during his practices.

"This was not like a one-day thing," he said. "There was a man from Taiwan and a man from China who were practicing and they broke it. I'm not worried; you just have to be very careful and it won't matter."

Daoism, one of Hong Kong's major religions along with Buddhism, stresses its followers to be natural and to maximize the bodily potential.

"The human has to be blended in good with the nature," Chan said. "Even the western scientists have proven that the emotions can affect a human's health greatly."

Chan said he became a master by following a professional Chinese doctor for two years, and practices all the basic theories of the Chinese medicine.

He has analyzed Chinese medicine for more than 10 years, and has been practicing for more than three years. A unique blend of herbs and wines, some are true remedies — some are for show like a strange snake wine, add color to the otherwise bland shelving of Chan's small, quaint kitchen, which also doubles as a Daoist pharmacy.

"If they can not be cured by technology of the western world then they come to me," he said. □



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

The weights to the right of Daoist master Tze Tan Chan are not used in the traditional way. Instead, Chan lifts many of these weights with his testicles as a way of harnessing energy he says is stored there. pp

Tung takes Hong Kong in his hands

Chief executive answers questions on housing, government policies



RICK ROGERS/The Chart
For many Hong Kong residents the Handover was a time of celebration and not cause for alarm concerning the island's political and economic future and growth..

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (July 1, 1997) — Tung Chee-hwa, new chief executive of Hong Kong, described the Handover to China as "a very joyous moment for me and for all Chinese people around the world."

With members of the local and foreign media present, Tung answered questions concerning Hong Kong's new governmental policies, its current housing conditions, and its foreign relations.

Tung became the Hong Kong SAR's new leader at the stroke of midnight on July 1, taking over for the island's former Gov. Chris Patten. Patten held the office for five years.

After meeting with Chinese President Jiang Zemin earlier that morning, Tung stressed that no department or locality would interfere with decisions that should be made by the SAR, and only the SAR.

"That declaration was indeed excellent news to us, and is something that I have known all along," Tung said. "This is a very joyous moment for me, and for all Chinese people around the world. To one country, two systems have been confirmed, so that Hong Kong people can govern Hong Kong."

If conflicts should arise between China and Hong Kong, Tung thinks a solution that would be a benefit at both ends would be easily achieved, because the goals of the motherland and the SAR are similar.

"The more prosperous Hong Kong is, it will continue to contribute to China modernization," he said. "The more successful China is, Hong Kong will become even more prosperous. The long-term goals of both countries are the same. As far as the short-term, there will be conflicts, and obviously they will need to be talked through in order to make sure our interests are looked after."

As far as the growth of democracy within Hong Kong's governmental structure, Tung said the Basic Law, which is the island's governing document, gives a strong foundation for a gradual democratic process. He also said he hopes members of the Democratic Party will continue to take part in upcoming LEGCO elections. The next elections are scheduled for the second quarter of 1998.

"Democracy is not out of the picture here in Hong Kong," Tung said. "Americans are concerned about this matter. They are concerned about protecting human rights. But they must realize China doesn't share the same laws as Hong Kong."

One major hurdle Tung will be forced to tackle will be Hong Kong's deteriorating housing conditions. During former Gov. Patten's administration, steps were being made to provide government housing for more than 150,000 people without adequate living conditions, and Tung said Executive Council members have already begun to evaluate the housing problem. But he did

add that it could take time to find the best solution.

"Housing is something very close to the heart of the whole community," Tung said. "I will continue to work with the Executive Council to find a way to move forward. Come October, in my policy address, I will give more specific for these measures."

When it comes to Hong Kong's state as an international business mecca, Tung stressed that all foreign businesses should continue to prosper under the SAR flag.

"My intention is to maintain Hong Kong's economic vibrance and to create wealth for the people," Tung said. "And I think there will be plenty of economic opportunities, not only for the local people, but also the international business community."

As was the goal of Hong Kong under the leadership of Great Britain, the SAR leader also wants to see the island continue to be a cosmopolitan city.

"We are a Chinese society, but on the other hand, we have been influenced by the west. I would like to see a society that combines the best of the east and the west," Tung said.

As Hong Kong's British characteristics fade into the sunset, Tung said it is important for the British to mend their fences with China.

"Hopefully, British people who have lived here and worked here will continue to do so, and make Hong Kong a prosperous community," he said. □

Tung embarks on whirlwind tour of island activities after Handover

By J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (July 4, 1997) — When the clock struck midnight on July 1, Tung Chee-hwa not only became the island's most powerful man, but also the busiest.

In a whirlwind tour of sites, buildings, meetings, and cocktail receptions, Tung's life has been lived on the go.

The shipping magnate turned Hong Kong chief executive was into his fourth day of leadership when he was the guest of honor at a cocktail reception held by the Hong Kong Financial Community Committee for the Celebration of Reunification of Hong Kong with China. Tung entered the room 15 minutes fashionably late as he had been dealing with affairs of the new provisional government prior to the reception.

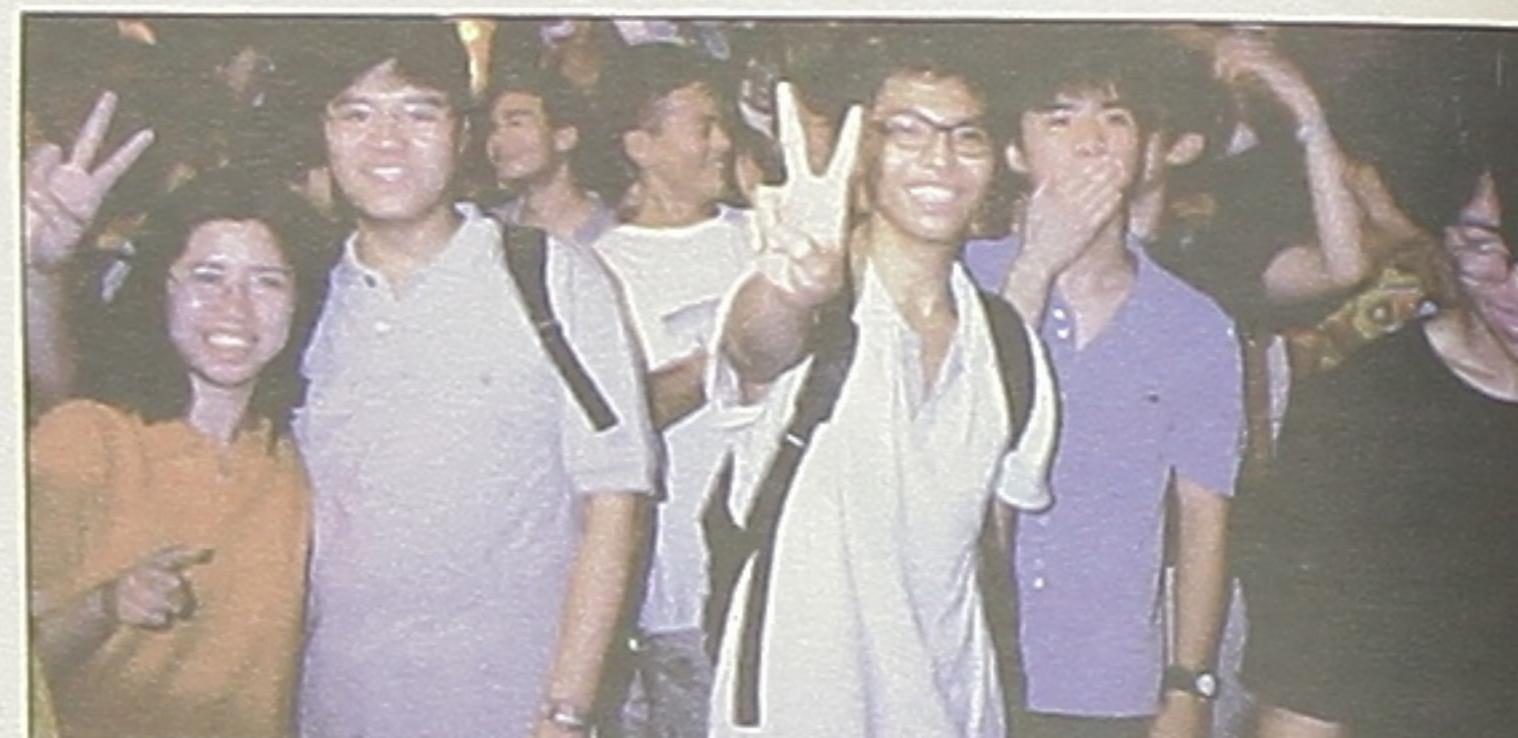
Nearly 300 invited guests crammed into the Marriott Hotel Ballroom to show support for Tung's economic plans.

"The continually rapid economic growth in the mainland of China has enabled closer cooperation between the mainland Hong Kong," said Yang Zilin, one of six chairmen of the committee, as he addressed the crowd, "adding momentum to Hong Kong's economic growth and opening up new avenues for development."

The financial community also seems pleased by China's willingness to operate under the "one country, two systems" plan. Yang said foreign investors have confidence the system will work. "They will become more determined to expand their investments in Hong Kong and to enter the Chinese market via the territory," he said.

Yang said he believes the financial community's vitality rises and falls with Hong Kong's economic success. He urged the audience to keep working hard to maintain the island's financial success.

Yang did acknowledge that many had earlier lost faith in the future of Hong Kong when



RICK ROGERS/The Chart
Peace for Hong Kong and its people is just one goal of new Hong Kong Chief Executive Tung Chee-Hwa's mission as leader of the Island. Tung became leader of Hong Kong July 1.

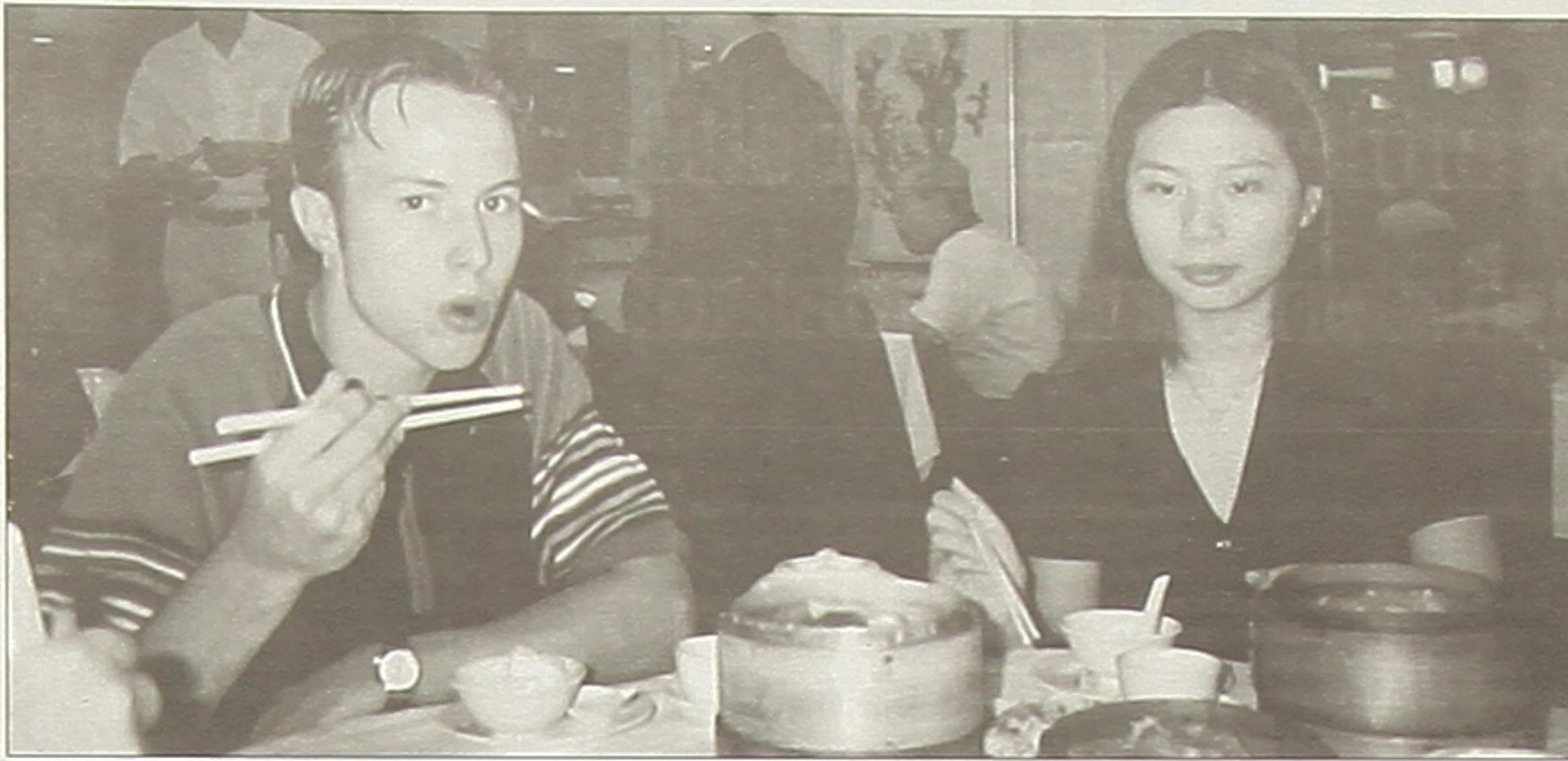
Sino-British negotiations began, but pointed out how successful Hong Kong was even after the Handover. "When the reunification did actually take place, we were pleased to see Hong Kong's robust economic growth, its stable financial development and a harmonious social atmosphere," he said.

When the address was finished, Tung took his place at the podium with the chairmen of the committee to pull a lever, which symboli-

cally ushered in a new era of Hong Kong's economic future. A brief video played which unveiled the committee's new Chinese slogan. After the video, Tung lifted a glass with all in the room to toast the effort.

And with that, Tung was headed for the door and off to another engagement. Not surprising since Tung had appeared at an average seven events a day since being sworn in. □

“I think Tony is getting there, but he needs to walk faster.”



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Tony Doll (left), an accounting major at Missouri Southern and a Joplin resident, and his girlfriend, Erica Lau, an international student at Southern from Hong Kong, enjoy a little Dim Sum at the Shamrock Restaurant in Hong Kong's Jordan District during Doll's visit to the island.

‘It’s just go, go, go... until you are tired’

Lau teaches Doll Chinese culture while witnessing history in Hong Kong

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 28, 1997) — One would think the transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong to China would be reason enough for an American to visit Hong Kong this summer, but that is not the case for Tony Doll.

Doll, a 20-year-old resident of Joplin, has quite a different reason for traveling more than 7,000 miles to Hong Kong, and luckily for him he has the advantage of having a personal tour guide to lead him in his journeys.

Doll came to Hong Kong on May 30 for a 10-week stay to spend some quality time with his girlfriend, Erica Lau, a native of Tsuen Wan, a district of Hong Kong.

But spending time with Lau, an international student at Missouri Southern, is not the only benefit of Doll's travels to the Orient.

The sophomore accounting major at Southern is also receiving a crash course in the culture of Hong Kong. After Lau asked if Doll would like to spend the summer with her, Doll said his parents were a tad bit skeptical at first.

“I asked my dad and at first he was kind of freaked out about it, because of the Handover that was to take place,” Doll said. “After he thought about it, he thought that it was a real good opportunity.”

Upon his arrival in Hong Kong, one of the first major differences he noticed was the fast-paced lifestyle of the average Hong Konger.

“It seems like they always had somewhere to go,” he said. “You really had to speed things up when you got here. The lifestyle here isn't really relaxing at all. It's just go, go, go, until you are tired. It seems like every place is full, every place is busy all of the time.”

Lau said Doll has been putting forth a good effort to mix in with the masses.

“People here walk so fast,” Lau said. “Our lifestyle here is so different from the Americans. Americans are used to being so relaxed. Here if you want to do something then you do it. I think Tony is getting there, but he needs to walk faster.”

“Time is very important, because time is money.”

Doll and Lau became acquainted with each other through a friendship which grew into a relationship in the beginning of April. With only a two-month relationship under their belts, a summer together in Hong Kong was something special for Lau.

“I asked him mainly because he is my boyfriend and I wanted to spend the summer with him,” she said. “I think he wanted to come to Hong Kong, because it was once in a lifetime opportunity for him.”

But Doll is not the only person adapting to the Hong Kong lifestyle. Lau, who returned to Hong Kong for the first time since August 1996, said she has to remember to act as a native, not as an American, when in the public eye.

“It is hard to get used to the lifestyle again, especially the way my people think,” she said. “They (her parents) always tease me because I have become more casual in my manners.”

Doll also said he has witnessed some behavioral differences in Lau's action since crossing the Pacific.

“Here you can't be affectionate in public,” Doll said. “Here she has to be very careful about her eating habits. It was really hard on her at first, and she got frustrated at first.”

What has been hardest on Doll in past weeks is the communication barrier between himself and Lau's parents and relatives.

He was living in a five-foot by 10-foot room with Lau's relatives. But don't get him wrong. Even though he can not speak the native tongue, that hasn't stopped him from being introduced to various customs with Lau by his side.

“I enjoy going out to eat with her parents and learning how to eat correctly,” he said.

“The whole experience has been very informative. I can use chopsticks now. Hopefully, I look like I have been here for more than a week now.”

In the few weeks he has spent in Hong Kong, Doll has visited The Peak, a major tourist attraction; gone on a cruise through the China Sea; and traveled to Macau, a Portuguese colony which features a variety of restaurants and tourist attractions, including a casino.

With the Handover activities about to begin later this month, Doll said it is exciting to be a part of history.

“That is one thing that I am really looking forward to seeing,” he said. “It is not only exciting to be in Hong Kong, but it is also neat to be here for one of the most historic events this century.”

Lau's feelings concerning the future of Hong Kong are not that of excitement.

“We will lose our freedom and democracy soon,” she said. “I do plan to come back to Hong Kong after school, because my family and relatives are here. It would be better if they could come to America, so I could stay in America.”

Even though sightseeing has been top priority for Doll, it has not been all fun and games for him.

“I took nails out of wood to help build these crates for this guy,” he said. “I also helped three girls who were taking Form Five Exams with their English discussion. I might even paint the inside of Erica's house.”

One obstacle the duo has faced in the constant glares from many of the natives because of their interracial relationship.

“The older people don't really except interracial dating, but the younger generation are more open-minded,” she said. “But they all like to stare at us.”

Despite all of his adventures, Doll said he will be ready to pack his bags and call it a summer come Aug. 11.

“There are things that I miss in America,” he said.

“But there will also be things that I will miss here, like the food.” □

COLOR paints historic day

150 hours of practice pays off for more than 2,000 performers

By J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 28, 1997) — Bright colors swirled around the floor of the makeshift arena as nearly 100 performers practiced the dragon dance, which was to lead off the Farewell Ceremony June 30.

As the beat of drums and cymbals echoed off the arena seats the night before the big event, the cloth dragons weaved through themselves while the Chinese and Hong Kong orchestras watched from their perches on opposite sides of the stage.

Family and friends of the performers watched from the stands as the first dress rehearsal got under way.

In all, 2,000 performers took part in the Farewell Ceremony that marked the end of British reign over the island. There were singers, dancers, and musicians from all over the world.

The choreographers, six of them, were from both Hong Kong and Great Britain. When showtime arrived, the performers had practiced an estimated 150 hours.

Marilyn Casson
Costume designer

99



To start the festivities for the Farewell Ceremony, it was decided to perform the traditional Chinese dragon dance. Beside the dancers, two orchestras performed and Prince Charles gave a speech.

"It should be pretty neat," said Steven Cooper, a spectator from Ipswich, England. "They've known about it for long enough."

The arena has been erected from nothing and now is an area of 75 meters by 85 meters. Only a scant few were able to see the ceremony in person, but BBC broadcast live to 60 countries with an expected audience of 120 million. Formerly a dock, the arena floor now had spots marked as cues for singers and dancers.

For most in the stands, this was their only chance to view the ceremony performance. And they were soaking it in.

Flash bulbs popped from both ends of the stands; even orchestra members took snapshots from their seats as they waited for their cue to start playing.

While the Chinese orchestra warmed up with classical pieces, including one with tenor Warren Mok singing, the Hong Kong orchestra performed more modern works, like a Rod Stewart piece.

"It would be nice to see it live," lamented Steve Claridge a spectator from Leicester, England. "But, what are you gonna do?"

For most on the island, they were going to do some celebrating of their own.

Many parties had been lined up across the city to watch the festivities on television.

Television played a part at the arena as well.



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart
Rehearsals that began at the crack of dawn the day before the Handover wore out this dragon dancer who rests up minutes before he and 100 others performed.

Two JumboTron screens were set up at the site for easier viewing. Shots of just about every inch of the arena were available to the 15 camera operators.

Behind the scenes, the long hours didn't seem to slow down coordinators.

"It's very tiring, but we're not slowing down," said Marilyn Casson, costume designer. "The people who've been working long term have been working 12-hour days."

As the deadline approached that turned sovereignty of the island back to China for the first time in 156 years, cultural traditions from both Britain and China were on display as the momentous occasion occurred. British honor guards were continuously checking each others' outfits for marks, nicks, and scratches.

Her Majesty's Royal Marine Band was among the few performers who looked anxious about the ceremony. They were all huddled together on the west side of the arena during the orchestra's warm-up, laughing, staring, and often yawning.

"We do this every day of our lives,"

99

To us it's just another professional job for us which gets the same amount of effort.

Capt. David Cole
Royal Marine Band
conductor

99

said conductor Capt. David Cole. "To us it's just another professional job for us which gets the same amount of effort."

When it was all over the arena was to go back to being a dock, and the 443 tons of seating and 300 tons of excess equipment will no longer be there.

But for performers, and likely the viewing world, the memories will last forever. □

Hong Kong comes home

No major changes occur day after, except police have new lapel pins



By J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG - They said the sun never set on the British Empire, but it dimmed to just a glimmer on June 30, 1997 as Great Britain relinquished control of the island back to China for the first time in 156 years.

With its 99-year lease up, Britain pulled up its few remaining stakes and shoved off.

An event hyped as the political event of the 20th century, the departure of British dignitaries and the subsequent revival of Chinese rule amounted to nothing more than a soggy and sappy show.

Both Gov. Chris Patten and Prince Charles gave almost apologetic speeches. The speeches were tinged with an air of humility for building this rocky, mountainous island into the thriving international commercial center.

As rain drenched the farewell ceremony at Tamar, members of the media yawned and milled around the press center with the only moment of excitement coming when British actor Jeremy Irons strolled through the venue shooting portions of his film, "The Chinese Box."

Even Irons looked bored as he watched the ceremony during a break in shooting.

It seems impossible to imagine that most Hong Kongers are happy to be back under the wing of the Chinese government, but natives were truly delighted by the upcoming transition.

When foreign leaders were ushered into the new convention center for the actual handover event, streets were barren and desolate. The few who did



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

The night of the Handover brought together people from around the globe.

Region, as Hong Kong will now be known, were in great abundance. Flags fluttered in the gentle breeze of Victoria Harbor. As the midnight hour closed in, crowds began to become more and more restless; police kept a watchful eye on the masses. The police were somewhat more jovial on this last day of British rule than they had been the previous days.

Many of the people stopped to take pictures with officers.

And officers even smiled in some of them.

Suddenly, and without warning, the crowd erupted. There was no signal, not a hint of warning. Everybody just seemed to know.

This happened twice more before a thunderous foghorn blew in the harbor.

The crowd started chanting in Chinese; arms flailed above the gathered.

People laughed as others cried.

The end had come for British rule.

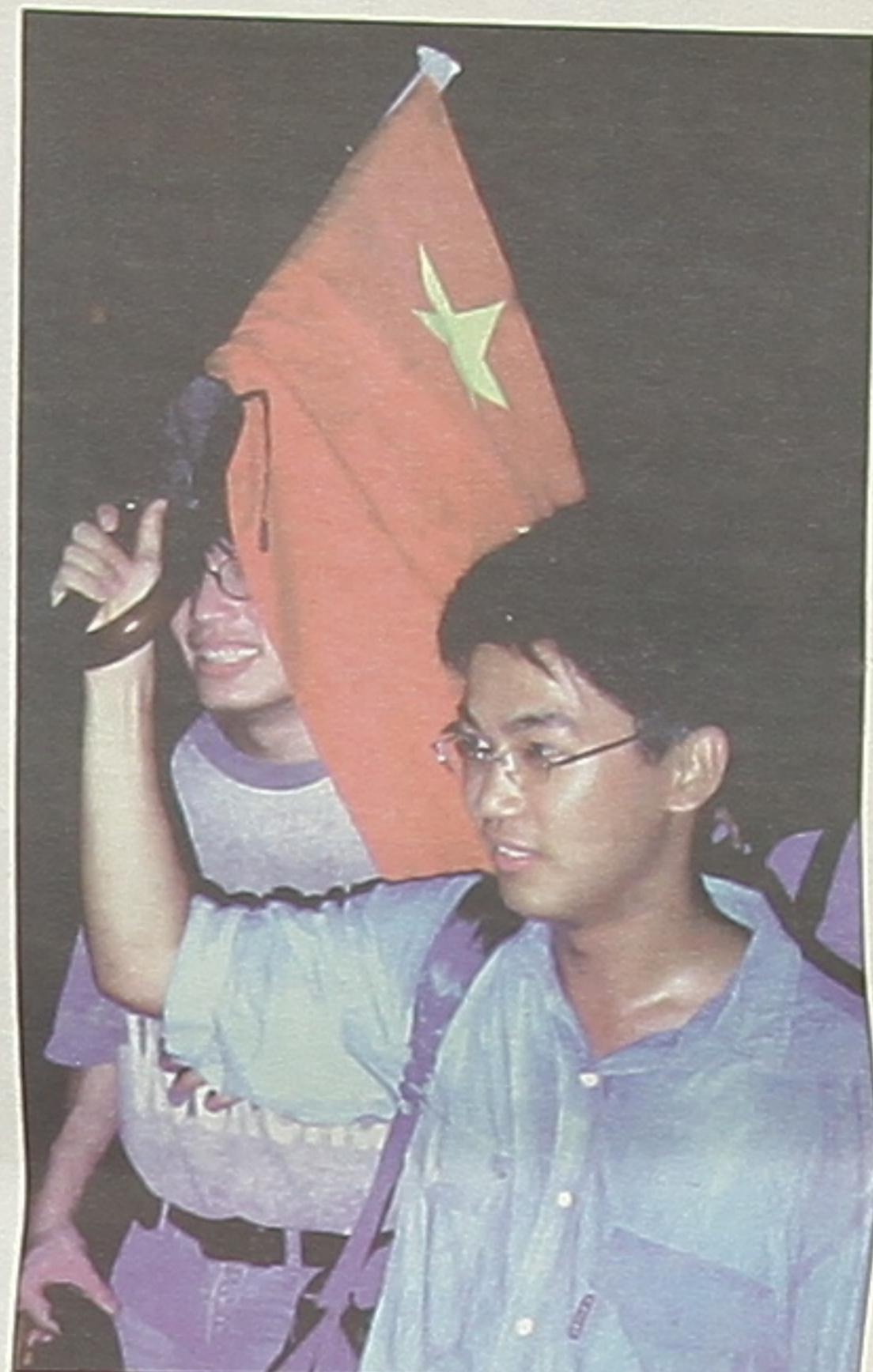
The Chinese had again assumed their rightful position as rulers of the island. And as soon as it had begun, it was over.

By 12:03 a.m. July 1, 1997, people were already heading back to their homes, their cars or subways. That was it. The world had not changed one bit. The rain still poured down.

The tide was still moving out. And the only noticeable change was the "R" was missing from the police shoulder pins.

They were no longer The Royal Hong Kong Police, they were simply now the Hong Kong Police.

During Chinese President Jiang Zemin's handover speech only a few seconds were allotted to the



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

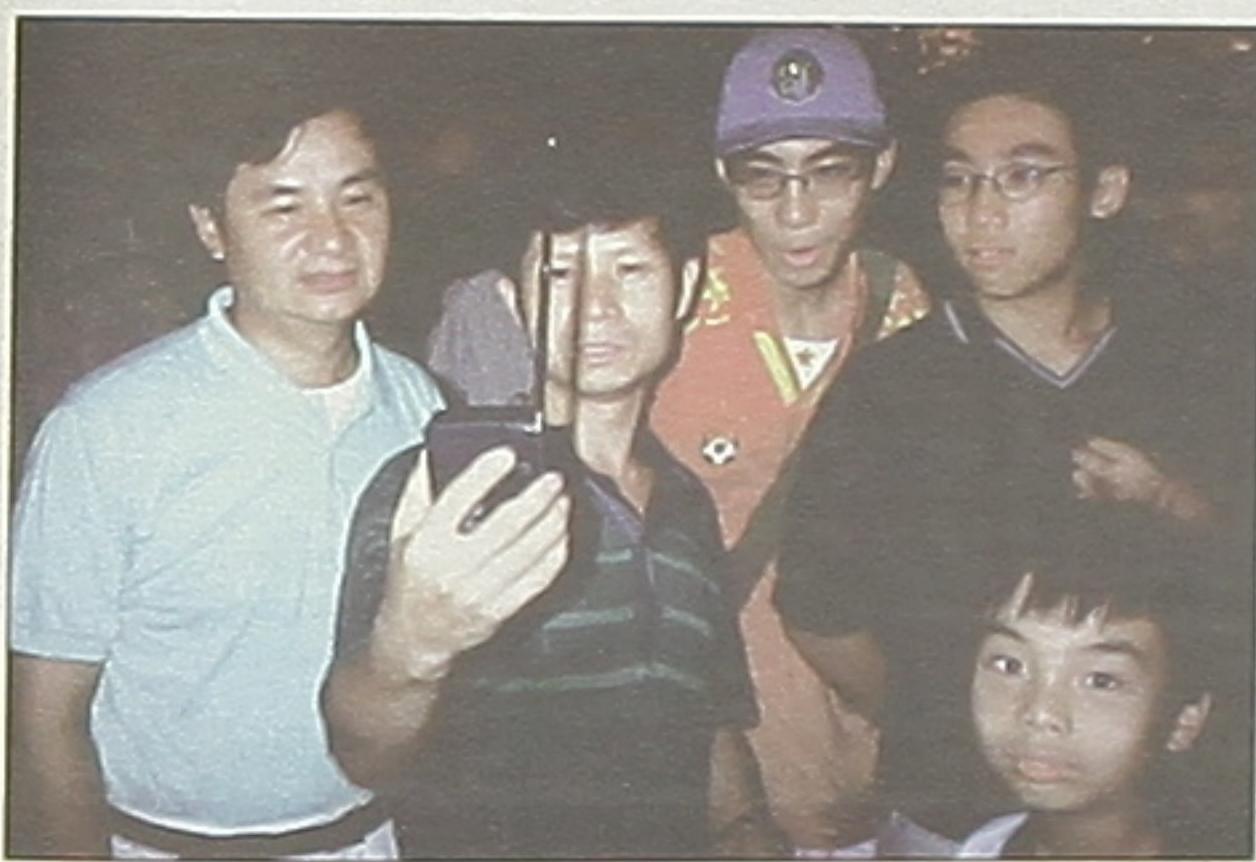
On the night of the Handover, many Hong Kongers celebrated the reunification with China along the banks of Victoria Harbor.

remembrance of what a humiliating blow it was to the motherland to lose Hong Kong. What seemed to be missing was a thankful word to the British for taking a coal mine and making it a diamond quarry.

The next day brought nothing new. It was still Hong Kong, it wasn't China. The foreign media still seemed focused on the PLA's arrival in Hong Kong, but a quick walk around the island showed no signs of the PLA, unless you went looking for them. Hong Kong had no obvious marks from being brought back to the Chinese fold.

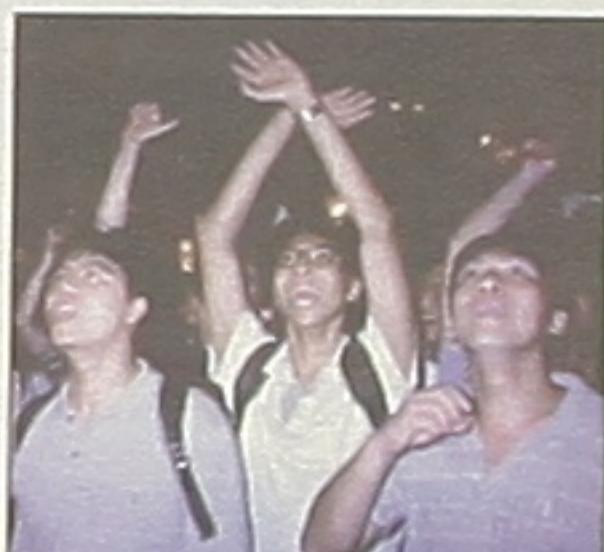
It was business as usual - well maybe not business, since everything was closed because of the five-day holiday - it was life as usual.

And when the day was over, the sun set on Hong Kong. But it will definitely rise tomorrow.



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Many locals watched the British government's departure on television.



Shouts of joy echoed around the harbor as the clock struck midnight, July 1, 1997.

RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Once in a lifetime...

Children are the future for China and the world

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

There is nothing like a small child looking up at you with a big grin plastered all over his face.

The smile stretches from ear to ear, and then the little tike desperately tries to squeeze out a small, "Hello," struggling to pronounce those strange English tenses.

After the one-syllable word escapes his lips, the smile becomes a little bit wider when he realizes that he has just communicated with an American.

That child is the future of China and the world, and can put a smile on any foreign visitor's face. He sure put one on mine.

When people ask me about my 27-day adventure through Hong Kong and China, I sometimes find it hard to give them a response that can easily summarize the journey in a few short paragraphs.

Of course, walking along the cobblestone paths of The Great Wall was an experience that I will cherish forever, and witnessing the Handover of Hong Kong to China among thousands of Chinese people will always be a lasting memory. But my best experience runs a little deeper than those historic moments in time.

My fondest memory of China and Hong Kong will be — the people.

Whether it was walking through the Guangzhou Zoo on a muggy Sunday afternoon, attempting to learn their peculiar language, or just fumbling with my chopsticks during a traditional dinner, I became drenched in the Chinese culture.

And I loved every minute of it.

I loved watching the people in their everyday environment. I cherished listening to their language, which sounds like an angry dialect at first and can be a tad bit intimidating to the foreign visitors at first. And I was amazed at their overall lifestyle.

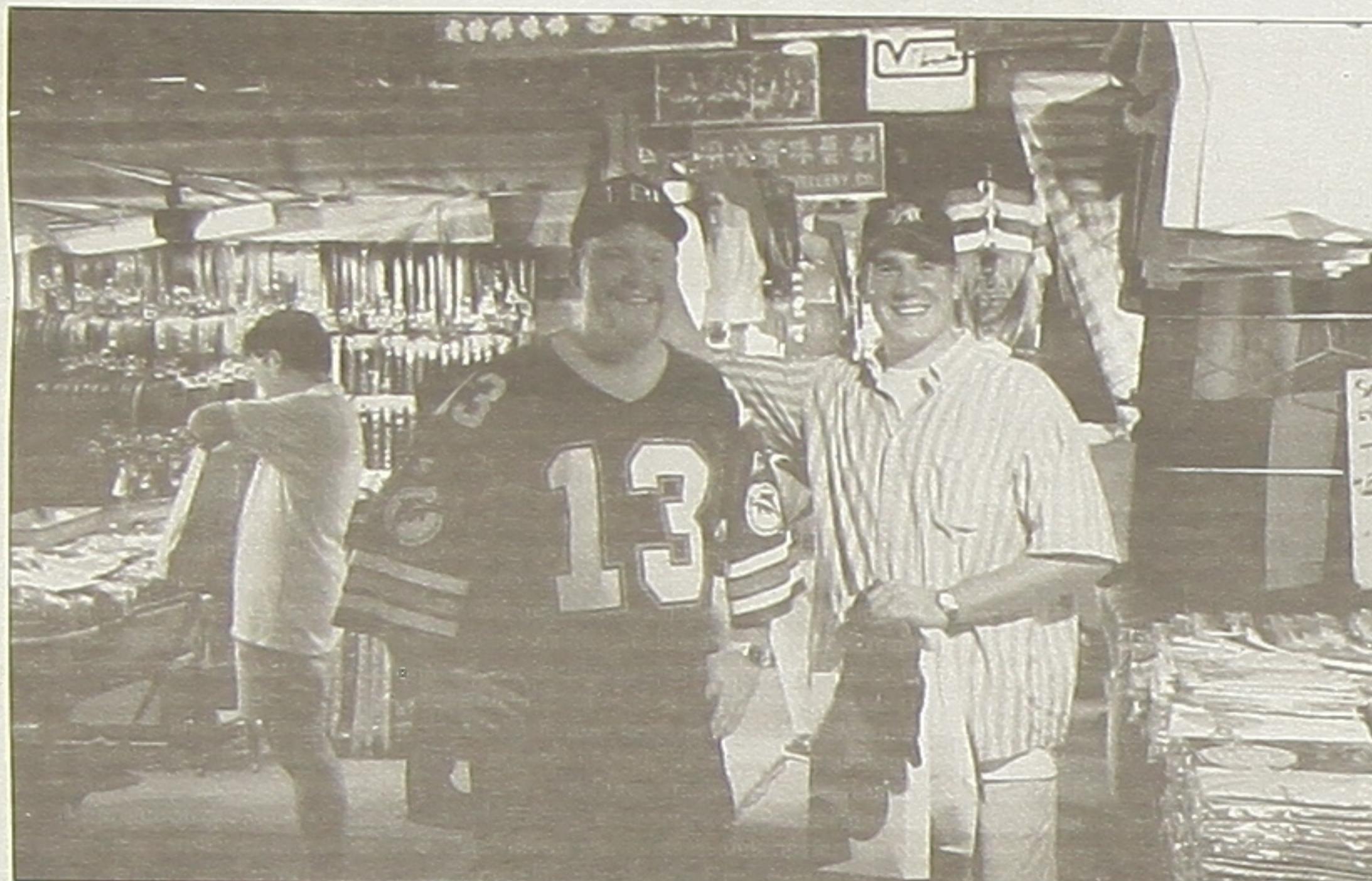
Despite living under a Communist state, the natives of China seem to be very content with their lives.

They are happy and proud to call China home, but they also know there is a whole other world out there.

Nowadays, the Chinese blend past beliefs with today's western trends in unbelievable fashion.

Along a typical Chinese thoroughway, posters and signs promoting Coca-Cola, Nike, Michael Jordan, and McDonald's can be found on almost any street corner.

The Chinese are becoming more like us every minute, and it's their children, smiles and all, who could determine China's — and the world's — future. □



Although the majority of time spent in Hong Kong was at work, Jake Griffin (left), and Rick Rogers found time to have fun.

Descending on island can be greatest treat

By J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

It wasn't until the second time we landed in Hong Kong, on a rain-soaked night in mid-July, that I realized how wonderful and glorious the city called the Pearl of the Orient really is.

It wasn't until we started developing our film that I realized we could no way show the splendor of this island truly. We could only capture portions of this wonderland that seemed to defy all the adjectives synonymous with marvelous. The gorgeous skyline at night which looked like an electric gate guarding the entrance to the world's most amazing city couldn't be captured in words nor pictures.

I really have not done justice to the glory of the city which cradles the awestruck visitor with its arms at the sea and on the land.

Hong Kong is a city that cannot be described in mere words, but instead with gestures and facial expressions. In the daylight overlooking Victoria Harbor is like being caught in an embrace from your mother.

At night the experience is even more exalting. With six million people all around you, a moment's glance around the island will make you feel like the only person on the planet.

When we had things to cover and places to go it became painfully obvious how close everyone was to you, but when you're just taking your time and stopping to marvel at the creation, you can get lost in your own world.

Hong Kong is as mystical a place that has ever been created. The energy from the

crowds make even the loneliest of visitors feel like part of something special.

It wasn't until we were bursting through the clouds above the Hong Kong airport that I realized how lucky I had been to see such a place. This smalltown boy from Eastern Oregon who had never imagined such a wonder like Hong Kong could exist is grateful for many things in his life. However, he is most appreciative of being allowed to experience Hong Kong's warmth enveloping him every time he took a breath.

I was stunned at how well everything operated, seemingly cohesive, even in one of the island's most tumultuous hours. There is something to be learned from these people who openly pronounce their joy at being back with the motherland, but still consider themselves independent from that same land.

The people, as much as the place, make Hong Kong the wonder it has become since it was swindled away from China 156 years ago.

I have failed once again in my attempt to paint a picture of what this "Fragrant Harbor" offers mankind, but it's just as well. If I could tell you the glory of this island it would ruin your adventure when Hong Kong's arms cradle you. □

Temple Street oozes with Chinese culture

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 27, 1997) — Whether a person is looking for a bargain or just wanting to do a little bartering, Temple Street is definitely a place to fancy a variety of shopping pleasures.

Temple Street, located in the heart of Kowloon, is a busy night market, that features a variety of booths selling traditional and current clothing, jewelry, accessories, movies, Chinese medicine, and many other items. The market opens at 6 p.m. every night, but is at its liveliest after 8 p.m.



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Traditional Chinese clothing is one of many items which is sold by vendors along Temple Street, in Kowloon.

If it says '97 on it, it's going to be a huge seller on this island

By J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (July 15, 1997) — Capitalism was in full swing throughout the Handover festivities, and it didn't let up when China regained control over the island.

The biggest seller wasn't one particular item, instead it was anything that was emblazoned with either "1997" or "97" on it. This was anything from T-shirts to napkins that bore the logo.

Vendors selling the items quickly ran out of T-shirts with a label that touted an "XL" or "XXL." The horde of reporters grabbed those.

"We're all out of our commemorative tees," said Fung Yi San, marketing assistant at Hong Kong's Planet Hollywood. "They were gone just days after the Handover."

Locals and tourists alike stocked up on the items that showed they were on the island during the historic moment.

With strings of lights intertwining through a mile-long stretch of booths and the ringing of constant bartering filling the night air, Temple Street's unique atmosphere makes for an ideal tourist stop, even if buying a trinket or two is not on the schedule.

Bargaining with the shopkeepers is a favorite among the tourists who visit the market, especially Americans Rebecca Rickard and Kirk Norton, residents of San Diego, Calif., who were in Hong Kong on a two-day business trip.

"The bartering here is just like that in Tijuana, Mexico," Rickard said. "It seems they just know enough [English] to haggle with you, and if you say no they know exactly what that means," Norton added.

Even though tourists and natives may enjoy bartering for a lower price, Keung Pun Yu, who peddles a variety of T-shirts in the heart of Temple Street, has quite a different view.

"It never used to be this way in the past," Yu said concerning the bartering by the customers. "Now, there is much more bargaining. A local person does not like to bargain, but the tourists like to bargain."

But don't get Yu wrong, tourists are the lifeblood of his business, which he has been operating for more than 20 years.

"I love tourists, because I depend on them for my business," Yu said. "But whether I make money or not, I will have to maintain this business, because I have put so much time and effort into it."

"We never had to set a limit on anything to be purchased," said Lu Jin, an employee at Hard Rock Cafe Kowloon. "We thought about it."

It was hard to escape what was going on. Anywhere that could hold the insignia was fair game for show. And if it could be reached, it was fair game to be taken.

If tourists couldn't get their hands on a T-shirt their size, they'd stop someone wearing it to take their picture.

"We had some idea it would be a hot commodity," Fung said.

Some businesses were lucky enough to have part of the logo in the name of their business. Pier 97, a restaurant in Kowloon, had it made when it came to advertising the Handover and its eatery.

"We've had people ask if they could have parts of the scenery. Stuff that's nailed into the walls," said Walter Chang, assistant manager at Pier 97. "People are really going crazy for this."



RICK ROGERS/The Chart
Temple Street, in Hong Kong's Kowloon District, is where many tourists and natives hunt for the best street bargain. Shoppers may barter for a lower price on the street.

MuiKai Wong, a 47-year-old shopkeeper specializing in watches, said bargaining is just part of his profession.

"People like to bargain with me, but I don't like to bargain with the people," he said.

With the upcoming transfer of sovereignty of Hong Kong to China just days away, Yu has no opinion about what is to take place, because he said the people have no say in the matter.

"Whether you like it or not we have to take it," he said.

Even though the Handover has not taken place yet, Yu said it has affected his profits in the past few months.

"My business has not been as good lately," he said. "I think the tourists are not coming as often because they are scared of the transition."

Wong said his business has also slipped in recent weeks, citing the Handover for the sudden change.

"I think the tourists do not want to come as much because of what is going on this summer," Wong said.

"Also, in the summer it is very hot and people do not want to come out and shop."

Wong has the same sentiments concerning the Handover.

"I have to accept it, because it is the fact that Hong Kong has to return to China someday," he said.

"People in Hong Kong are used to adapting to change."

Traditional Chinese dresses are the bread and butter of Peter Kwok's small booth, which he has been operating since 1989. The Kowloon resident said his profits from his shop make for a decent living for his family, who also help with the booth's upkeep.

"My clothing is made by a factory in China and I get it through them," he said. "It is some of the best on Temple Street."

When it comes to bartering, Kwon said he doesn't mind it if the customers are friendly.

"It all depends on their attitude with me," he said. "If they come with a bad attitude I will not give them a deal."

Has the upcoming Handover affected his market?

"Not really," Kwon said. "We are used to change here. If my profits go down, I will have to see how my business goes." □

One of the most popular items to bear the "97" logo was umbrellas made for 7-11 convenience stores which dot the island. Because it was monsoon season at the time of Handover, the 7-11 umbrellas could be spotted everywhere.

"This is what Hong Kong is all about," Chang said. "Everywhere there's capitalism."

Even the hardened natives couldn't resist taking part in the craze for the merchandise. Lines formed for several feet at post offices by people trying to get Hong Kong stamps before it became a part of China again.

"I bought a little bit of everything for family and friends overseas," Fung said. "They'll make perfect gifts."

Since it was a such an historic moment in the history of not only Hong Kong, and the world, Chang said he thought people were stocking up to cash in in the future.

"You can't help thinking these are going to be very valuable someday," he said. "This whole thing has been a gold mine for marketers." □

Small fire causes ruckus on big day

Firefighters battle blaze, reporters to extinguish flames

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 30, 1997) — What was a quiet morning on the eve of the Handover turned into chaos on the sixth floor of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center Monday morning.

A small plastic cooking dish caught fire in a heating unit located in the Gallery Cafe, causing an uproar among the workers and members of the media who converged on the scene.

The Gallery Cafe is located just one floor below the press center, where local and foreign journalists are stationed to record the Handover events.

It was because of the fire's close proximity to the press center that speculations concerning its cause were raised.

Cliff Wallace, managing director of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center, said the fire was in no way a reason for alarm.

"We believe that it was only an accident," Wallace said. "An accident which was due to the overcooking of food."

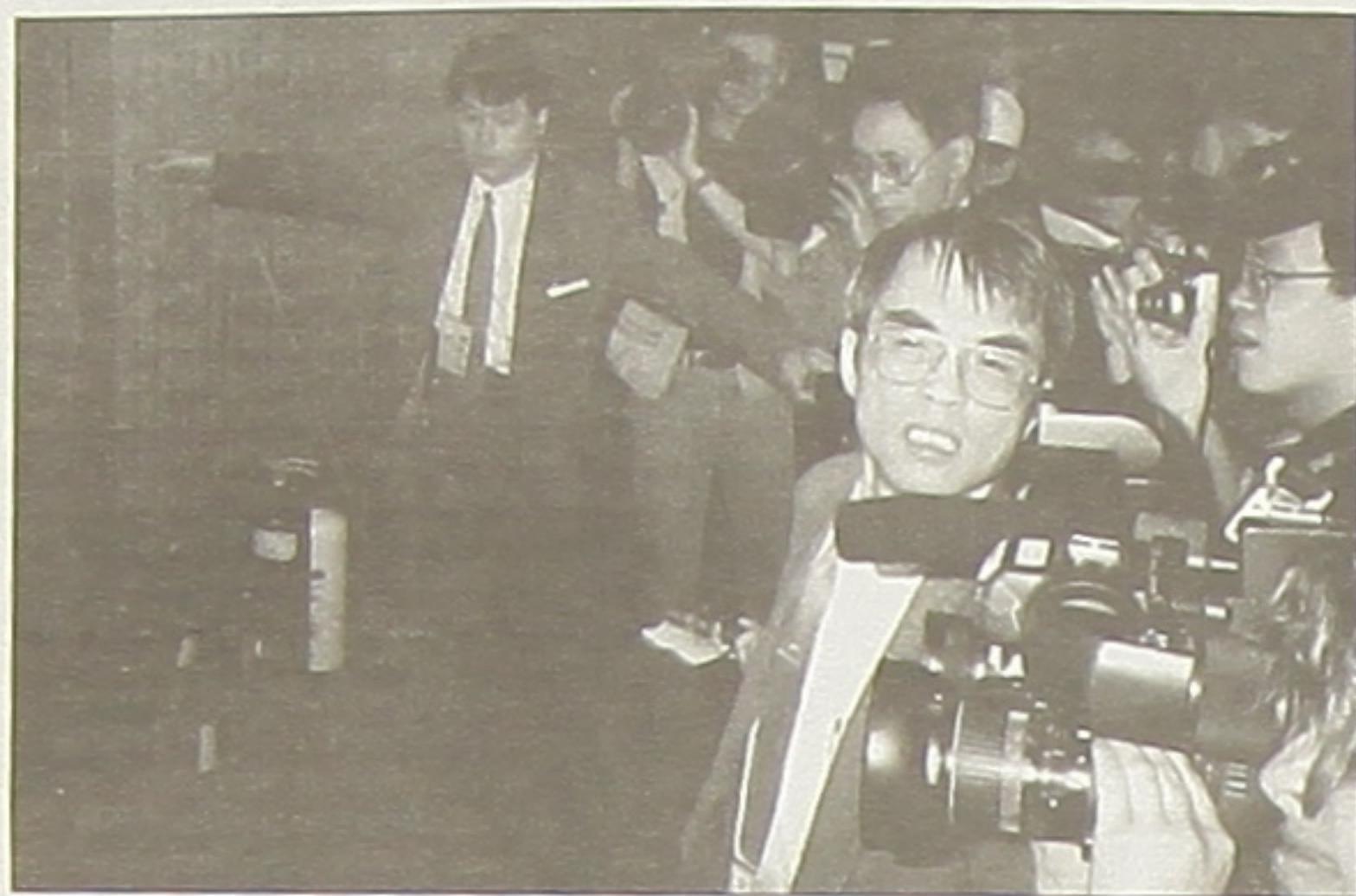
Tsang Wan Hing, station commander of the 415 station, said the cooking unit caught fire at approximately 11:30 a.m.

He added that two employees extinguished the flames before his department arrived, using two carbon dioxide extinguishers. Smoke caused by the fire set off alarms on both the sixth and seventh floors of the convention center.

"We did have to evacuate the Gallery Cafe, but there was no need to evacuate the seventh floor and the press center," Wallace said.

There were no injuries caused by the blaze, and Wallace said the only damages reported were to that of the cooking unit.

"We accept the fact that it was an accident," he said. "But we are back to 100-percent normal, and in no way is this accident going to affect tonight's activities." □



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

A security officer tries to hold off a sea of photographers trying to get pictures of a blaze that broke out the day of the Handover at Hong Kong's Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Language in local courts changes with sovereignty

11 years after decree, ordinances written in HK's native tongue

By J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 26, 1997) — In an effort to incorporate the native tongue into the island's future, Hong Kong officials released guidelines lawmakers will use to enact legislation in both English and Chinese.

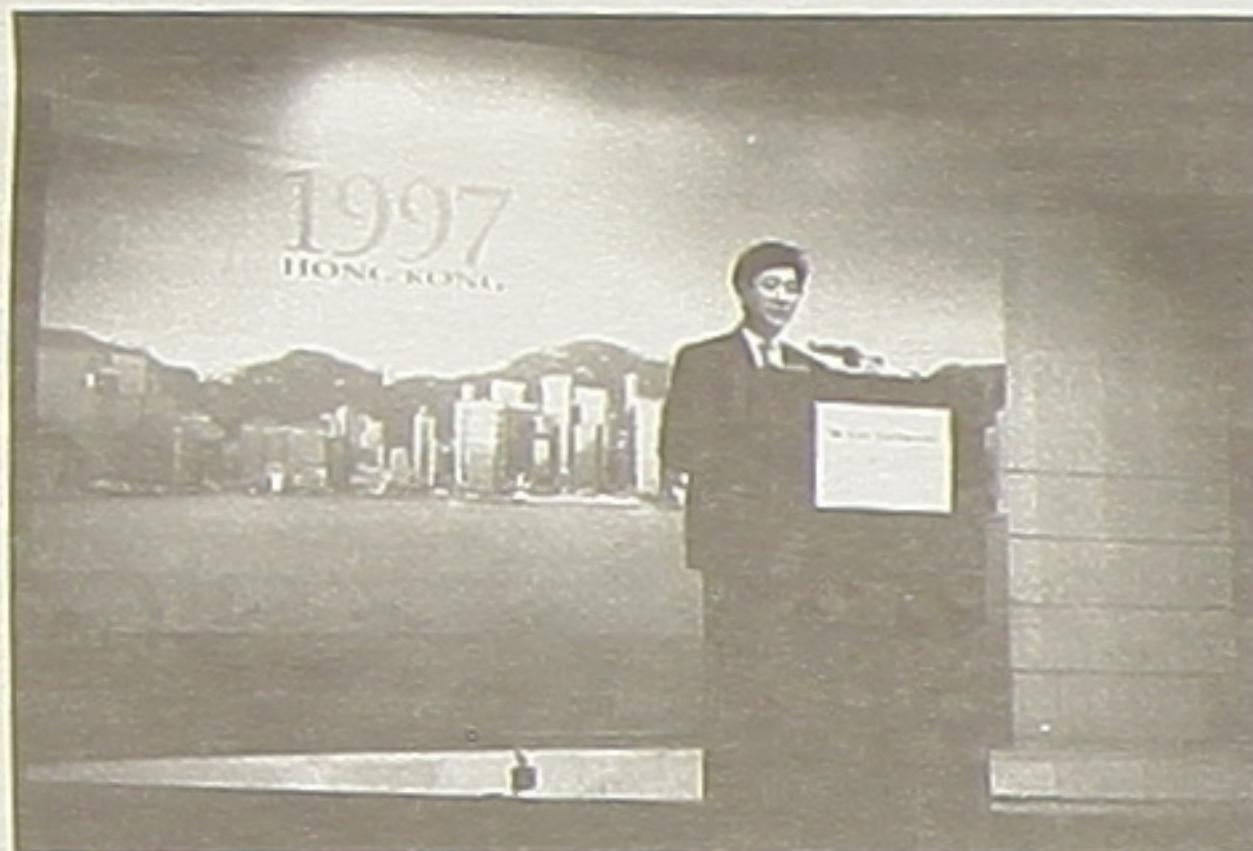
As expected, the English text will take precedence over the Chinese text.

"It does not surprise us that the Chinese translation of the language has been described as difficult to incomprehensible," says Tony Yen, law draftsman. "The language is difficult to translate because many of the words originated in the English legal system."

Yen's admission prompted questions regarding the speed at which the translation was done and whether it was done to coincide with the July 1 Handover of Hong Kong's sovereignty back to China.

"We haven't done a rush job," Yen said. "At one stage we were quite pessimistic about getting done by the Handover."

Yen said the process has been going on for more than 10 years.



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Tony Yen, a Hong Kong law draftsman, explains changes to the system.

"We started the Bilingual Law Program not because of the Handover, but because of outcry many years ago," he said. "There came great demand from the community to change the law. There has been public outcry that the mother tongue be used in the legal system."

Prior to 1986 lawmakers were required only to enact laws in English, but an amendment to the Royal Instructions and the Official Languages Ordinance changed that.

In 1989 the first bilingual ordinance was enacted. Since, more than 530 ordinances have been

translated to Chinese text.

Approximately 21,000 pages had to be translated from English version to Chinese. The job was finished in April. However, if a problem arises in the translation, the English version will be the language used for final judgment.

"The English language is the international language of commerce," Yen said. "There was little doubt the Chinese language would become a part of the system, though."

Hong Kong commercial lawyer Martin Hong said the change will have little effect on the practice of law on the island.

Since most lawyers in Hong Kong are in the commercial end of the business, their clients already speak English. This change will affect criminal proceedings more, he said.

"It does save a lot of time," Hong said. "It's good for ordinary citizens. At least they can understand the law without going to a lawyer."

Hong said the Chinese version may lack some power the English text holds, but there has already been at least one problem with the change.

"As we all know, the Chinese version will be for guidance only, but there was a case overturned before because of a difference in translation," he said. "I think there will be a few more."

Yen said changing the law to allow for Chinese translation makes for a more democratic system.

Using a language, which isn't the native tongue to more than 95 percent of the population, is "not conducive to the legal system," he said.

The language barrier of old English legal text is also trying to be remedied by a consideration to rewrite some of the old laws in "plain, modern language," Yen said.

Yen said the effects of the change were already being felt in the legal community.

"In the lower courts nowadays a

"The English language is the international language of commerce. There was little doubt the Chinese language would become a part of the system."

Tony Yen
Law draftsman

99

lot of cases are being tried in Chinese," he said. Also, he said the Chinese script gives Chinese newspapers more access to court proceedings.

Yen said in the future, bar exams will be conducted in both English and Chinese. Appeals to judges, lawyers, and legal academics to use more Chinese in their work have been made as well.

Yen also announced all Hong Kong laws would be available on the Internet in August. □

Covering the story of the century

8,000 journalists flock to record history

BY RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (July 4, 1997) — It was billed as the media event of the century.

And for more than 8,000 foreign and regional journalists, covering the Handover of Hong Kong to China was literally a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Whether it was attending Hong Kong SAR Chief Executive Tung Chee-Hwa's first official press conference, snapping an emotion photograph of Governor Chris Patten holding back tears on the ship Britannia, or just witnessing the Handover ceremonies first-hand, the stories and thoughts expressed by media representatives from across the globe became an important cog in the event's well-oiled machine.

But just being able to cover the Handover was a time-consuming struggle for many members of the press.

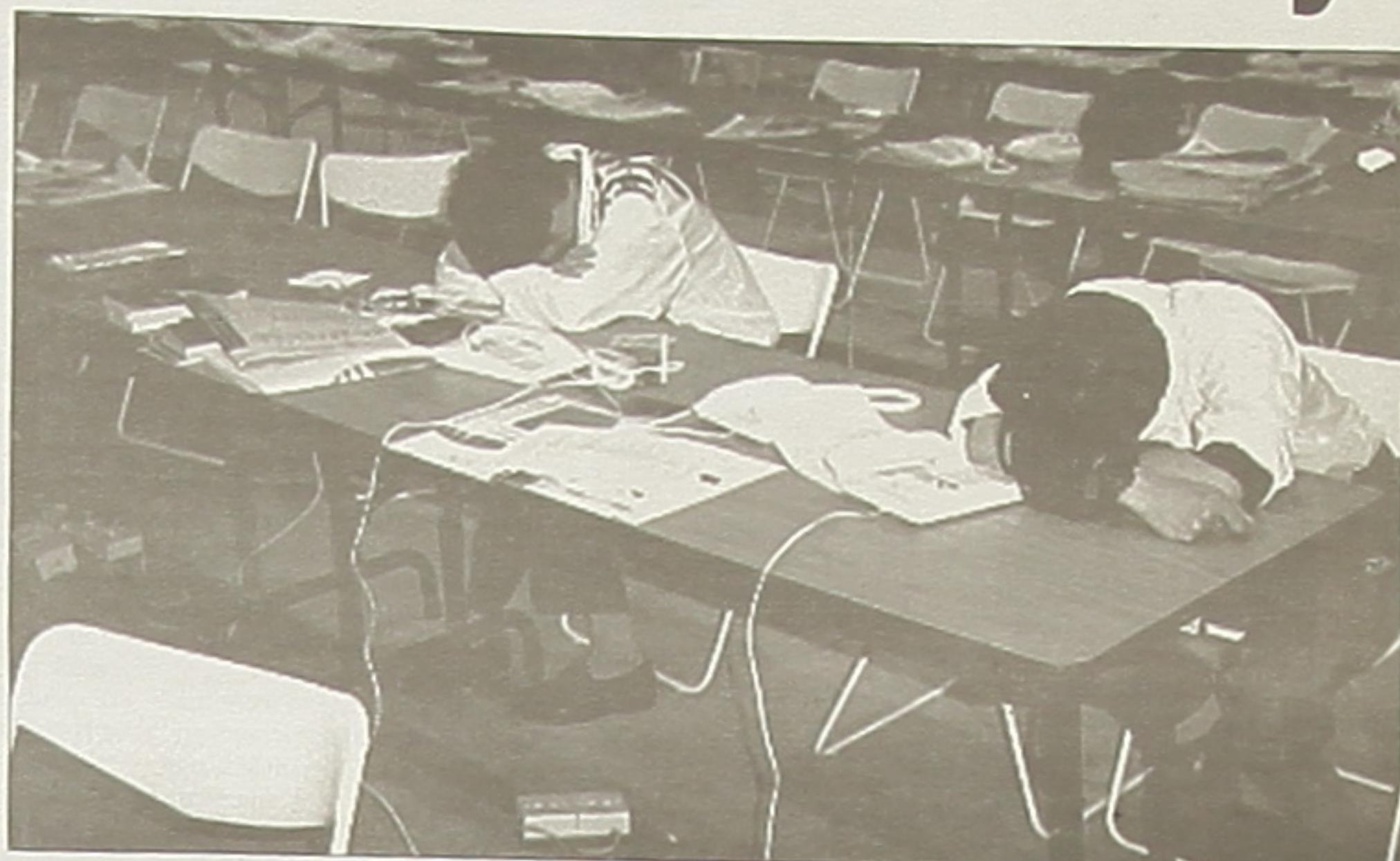
When they weren't thumbing for new story angles or photo opportunities, members of the broadcast and print media were setting up shop in the press center, located on the seventh floor of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The press center featured cubicles for the elite media, computers with Internet access, a photo processing lab, and working space for more than 4,000 members of the press.

Rainer Wolfgramm, editor of ARD German Radio, said his station began mapping out a game plan for their Handover coverage as early as October 1996.

"We began by just thinking of a few story ideas on topics that we knew of already," he said.

"Then around December or January, we began the



J.L. GRIFFIN/The Chart

Members of the press recover from a hard night's work by catching a quick nap at the press center, located in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. The press center's facilities were accessible to all accredited members of the media.

accreditation process and paying deposits on a radio booth."

The station began their live Hong Kong coverage in early May, after renting a flat and erecting a studio.

The former Asia-Pacific correspondent said he is no stranger to covering events in and around Hong Kong, which he thinks gave him a slight advantage in finding new story ideas.

"We have been covering everything and every angle since we have been here," Wolfgramm said. "If it happened between Victoria Harbor to The Peak, we were there. Whether it was political, cultural, economical, or just a Handover event we covered it."

Even though there is no clear connection between the Handover of Hong Kong and Germany, Wolfgramm said his homeland had quite an interest in the transfer of sovereignty.

"Everybody knows about it," he said.

"Everyone has read about it, watched it on television, or listened to it on the radio. We also have 5,000 German Hong Kong residents."

Unlike their foreign foes, members of the local media had the slight advantage of functioning on their home turf.

"Working for me really hasn't been that different than normal," Phillip

Tung, a photographer for Hong Kong's *Daily Apple*, a cutting-edge publication, said.

"The only major problem is that I have to arrive a lot earlier to get a good photographer position."

Clara Tsui, a 23-year-old reporter with the *Oriental Daily News*, Hong Kong's largest Chinese newspaper, said she enjoyed the opportunity to report on major press conferences held by key political figures.

"Covering the Handover is important to me, because 1997 is a key time in history for me and my generation," she said.

From what she has been able to witness, Tsui said the Hong Kongers' reactions to now living under the rule of China were as expected.

"I think the people have accepted the turn to China," she said.

"And the people who didn't have already left the country. For the most part, I think the people will adapt to the change."

"The Handover was much more peaceful than a lot of people thought it was going to be."

Tsui said the Chinese government took a key step in the right direction by appointing Tung as the SAR's Chief Executive.

"After Tung was appointed, the people's reactions were more positive," she said. "He's quite a good choice in my mind."

Despite the rather positive environment surrounding the event, one of the Handover activities put a sense of fear through Tsui's body.

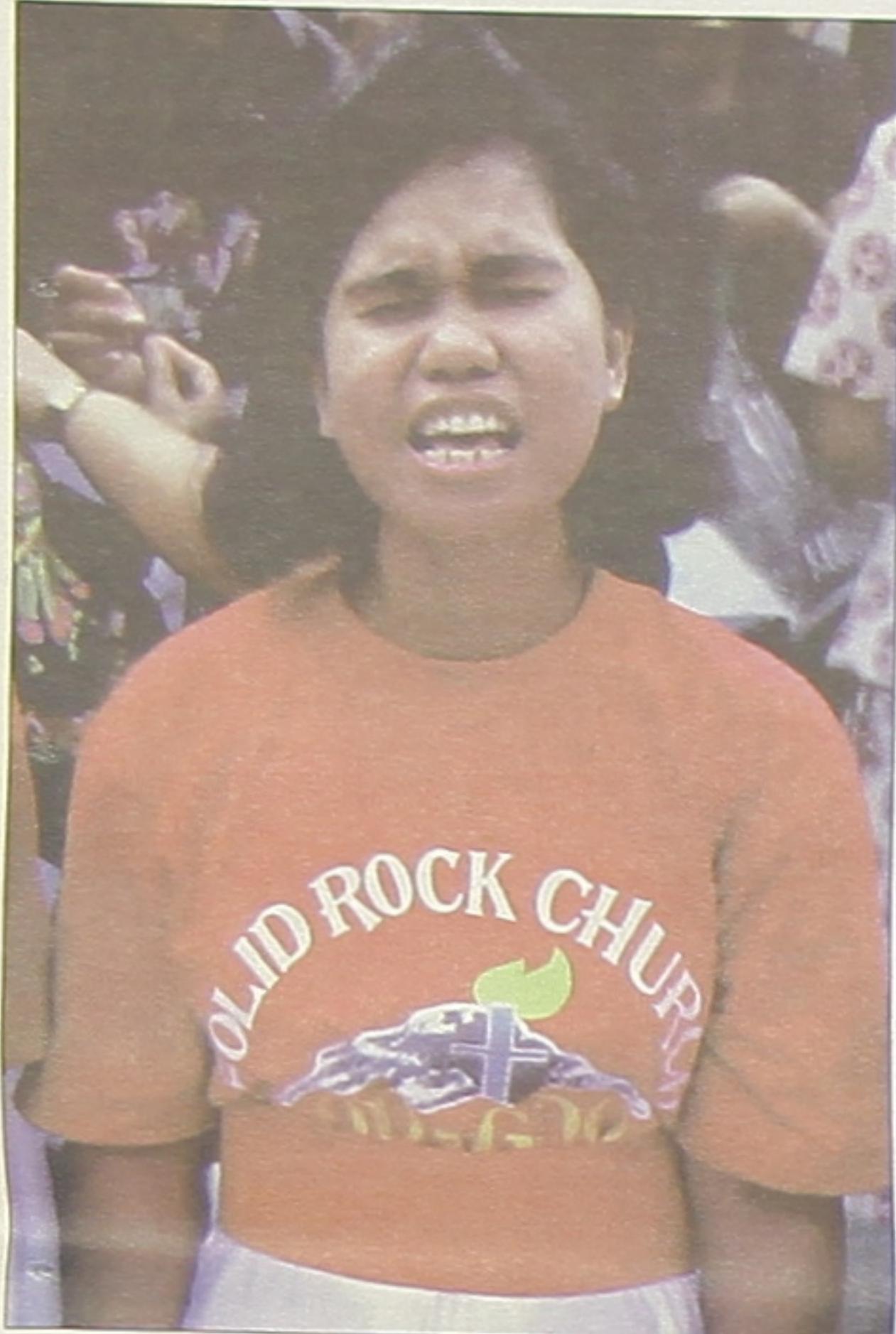
"It was when I was watching the PLA troops marching in," she said. "There were about 1,000 people there to watch. It seemed like it was just like the 1930s and 40s, when the China Red Army marched into cities. At that time, I had a bit of doubt about the Handover."

Even though her freedom of the press rights could be in danger in the not-so-distant future, Tsui said she plans to continue her journalism career in the heart of Hong Kong.

"This is where I live," Tsui said. "Our editors tell us what to do, not the government." □



RICK ROGERS/The Chart
A camerawoman and a sound technician for CNN wait for the Filipino rally festivities to take place on Sunday, June 29, two days before the handover of Hong Kong to China. More than 8,000 members of the local and foreign press gathered to cover the transition.



A member of the Solid Rock Christian Church shows some emotion during a group prayer in Hong Kong's Statue Square on June 29.

a day 'Maid' for fun

Filipino maids gather at Statue Square

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 29, 1997) — It was no ordinary Sunday afternoon for more than 1,000 Filipino domestic workers who gathered in Statue Square.

As thousands nestled in every nook and cranny of the Central District's small, historic gathering spot, picnics and promenades were not the order of business this day, as the United Filipinos in Hong Kong's (UNIFIL-HK) messages and concerns put a dark cloud on a normally upbeat occasion.

Hong Kong is home to more than 150,000 Filipino domestic workers, mostly females, who fled their homeland to find better work and living conditions.

It is job security UNIFIL-HK officials think could be in dire straits after the Handover of Hong Kong to China July 1. Goody Cadaoas, vice chairman of the UNIFIL-HK and a domestic employee of St. Peter's Church in Hong Kong, said she is concerned the Chinese may push the Filipinos away from their jobs — and away from Hong Kong entirely.

"If that happens, and they (the

Chinese) take our jobs away, we will have no other course but to go back to our homeland," Cadaoas said. "We want to make sure that they will have jobs for us back home."

Cadaoas said her people are not afraid of the Handover, because they fully understand the necessity to liberate from colonialism.

"If we go back home, we want to know what is waiting for us," she said. "Do they have jobs for us? If not, we will be forced to go out to another country again, and that is the problem."

Connie Bragas-Regalado, chairperson for the UNIFIL-HK, said there are concerns about the Filipinos' livelihood in Hong Kong.

"Our fear of continued persecution and discrimination is grounded on the drawn-out experience of unjust termination, abuse, and deaths," she said. "We also fear the anti-migrant policies like the New Conditions of Hong Kong."

Bragas-Regalado said her people's fears also stem from the irresponsibility and inutility of the Philippine government to protect the rights and welfare of its people stationed in Hong Kong. Filipino migrant workers are only allowed to work in the

domestic field, working between eight to 12 hours a day, six days a week. The migrants cannot seek employment in shops or factories.

The UNIFIL-HK rally wasn't the only demonstration piquing the interests of natives and tourists in Hong Kong's Statue Square.

A peaceful concert and rally was also taking place along a closed-down stretch of Chater Road, in front of the LEGCO Building, by the Romine Ministries in conjunction with more than 10 Hong Kong churches.

"Today we celebrate the coming of China to Hong Kong and the blessings of God in this matter," Dr. Greg Romine, president of Romine Ministries, said. "But no matter what happens we all know the word of God will ring true in Hong Kong. Nothing will put an end to that."

Throughout the concert, members of the Solid Rock Church held moments of prayer and performed a variety of dance numbers.

A man posing as Jesus on the cross strolled through the crowd drawing the attention of not only the onlookers — but also the HK police.

"These times are times to remember," Romine shouted to the crowd. "These times are times of the Lord." □

Domestic workers converge on Kowloon Park to take in free concert

By J.L. GRIFFIN
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 29, 1997) — While many of their counterparts were taking part in a rally on the island, thousands of Filipino domestic workers file into the Kowloon Park amphitheater for a free concert.

The day was touted as "Asia Extravaganza '97," but it was more of a world extravaganza. Sights, sounds, and smell from all over the globe filled the city's premier park.

It was a family affair in the park, but the Filipino contingency could not be overlooked as they packed into the amphitheater to listen to bands from every corner of the Earth.

Mango Groove from South Africa was one of several groups to perform Sunday. They played a 30-minute set before giving way to the Jamaican reggae duo Saint and Campbell.

When the members of Mango Groove left the stage they were drenched in sweat from the 93-degree heat and 90-plus percent humidity. "The weather's like this in places like Capetown," said John Mango, guitarist, comparing it to his homeland. "In Johannesburg, it's beautiful weather."

The crowd was unlike an American audience,

which usually mills around during opening acts. Although mainly Filipino women, a few Chinese and a smattering of British also endured the temperatures with overwhelming enthusiasm. Even when it started to drizzle during the reggae duo's set, the crowd seemed revitalized.

When headliners Bananarama took the stage the crowd roars muffled the sound of the group's welcome.

"Usually I find Asian crowds pretty good," said longtime Bananarama dancer Bassey Walker. "I find if you're having a good time, they have a good time."

Playing Asia is a far cry from playing venues in the United Kingdom or the United States, Walker said.

"Usually British crowds are much more reserved," he said. "They have to be so hip, you know. You have to really cook to get them out of their seats."

Although Mango Groove will stay on to play a concert which is simply being labeled "The Event," Bananarama barely had time to change before they were off for their hotel to pack for their next show.

"We're not slowing down a bit," said Sara Dallin of Bananarama. "We've got to get to our hotel and then we're off to Manila."



Thousands of Filipino maids gathered in Kowloon Park to listen to the smooth sounds of Bananarama and many other bands during the 'Asia Extravaganza '97,' a free concert.

Mango Groove is playing "The Event," and will be around for Monday and Tuesday's Handover activities.

"It's not as big an event as I would have expected it," Mango said.

It may not appear to Mango as a big event, but the crowds milling through the park all day long made it look like a major event. At one

point, police had to barricade excess onlookers from going inside the amphitheater grounds. Even the backside of the stage had crowds poised to watch the performers.

The concert was organized to be a part of the Handover ceremonies. More than 1 million people who were estimated to have passed through the gates. □

HK government reviews textbooks, syllabi

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (June 28, 1997) — In search of a more Chinese educational flavor, the Hong Kong Secretary of Education in consultation with the Curriculum Development Council (CDC) reviewed and revised existing school syllabi and textbooks before the July 1 Handover.

The CDC is an advisory body comprising school heads, practicing teachers, academics from tertiary institutions, representatives from the Hong Kong Examinations Authority, parents and employers as well as officers of the Education Department.

With the transfer of sovereignty taking place July 1, a spokesperson for the Education Department said it was necessary to review existing syllabi and textbooks, in particular the humanities subjects to reflect political, economic, and social developments.

Since 1995, 11 subjects have been revised on the following criteria: updating titles and terminology; removing expressions contradicting the "one country, two systems principle"; and enhancing students' understanding of Chinese culture.

"Curriculum review is an on-going process," Simon Lau, a spokesman for the Education Department, said. "The updating also involves enhancing the students' understanding of China."

Other examples of such updating are "Hong Kong" becoming "Hong Kong Special Administrative Region," "Hong Kong Governor" becoming "Chief Executive of the Hong Kong SAR," and change in the Chinese term for "Legislative Council" after the Handover.

In December 1995, the Education Department issued Guidelines on Textbook Revisions for publishers. According to the guidelines, the textbook changes in relation to 1997 should accord with the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law.

"In updating textbooks for 1997, minor amendments can be made in the form of leaflets inserted into the present textbooks and will be ready for use in the new school year commencing in September 1997," Lau said.

But certain updating concerning new titles in governmental development and the election system will not be ready until the September 1998 school year.

The Education Department has not issued any instruction on how specific events in history should be written in text-

books," Lau said. "However, in discussing historical events, textbook writers and teachers should present objective, balanced viewpoints and help students develop critical, reflective thinking."

Even though July 1 will watch the sun set on 156 years of English rule, English history will still be taught in the island's school systems. "English history is at present covered in the history subject," Lau said. "There is no proposal to change the coverage of English history in future textbooks."

According to Hong Kong 1997, published by Hong Kong's Information Services Department, approximately 1.2 million students, or 20 percent of the total population, were in full-time education during 1996.

They attended more than 2,400 educational facilities, which encompass kindergarten, primary and secondary schools, tertiary and technical institutions, all of which will be affected by the curriculum revisions. Approved public spending on education in the 1996-97 financial year amounted to \$39.82 billion, which represented 21 percent of the government's total recurrent expenditure. □

Now that Great Britain's rule over Hong Kong is part of the history books, one British characteristic that may be hard to overcome is the natives' passion for playing and watching football.

Soccer reigns as Hong Kong's No. 1 sport

By RICK ROGERS
CHART INTERNATIONAL REPORTER

HONG KONG (July 3, 1997) — When it comes to Hong Kong's sporting preference, football reigns king — and that's not American football.

Children and adults will play football, or soccer as it is known in the United States, anywhere they see fit. They will make a pitch out of concrete, grass (if they can find it), an alleyway, and will even kick the ball around on the subway if space permits.

When it comes to soccer, Hong Kongers take it seriously. Jerseys are a hot commodity on the island, as teams' namesakes from both Europe and Asia appear on the backs of many of the soccer faithful whether it is for a game, or just for leisure. And even though the people of Hong Kong are no longer in the hands

of the football-crazed Brits, the sport hasn't seemed to lose its No. 1 status.

That was put to the test Thursday, July 3, when the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region sponsored its first-ever Reunification Cup between the FIFA All-Stars and the Asia All-Stars before a crowd of more than 17,000 at Hong Kong Stadium.

Not even heavy doses of rainfall could hose down the event that saw the FIFA All-Stars cruise to a 5-3 victory. The game featured some of soccer's top gunners for all around the globe, including FIFA's 1996-97 MVP George Weah.

Weah, who notched one goal and two assists in the Cup, said he was proud to be a part of the historic match.

"It was an honor and a privilege to be in Hong Kong," Weah, a forward for AC Milan, said. "Not only to play in this game, but to be here on the week of the Handover."

Victor Hui Chun Fui, chairman of the Hong Kong Football Association, said the Reunification Cup was one of the biggest matches, in terms of importance, in the island's history.

"Because this match was sponsored by FIFA," Fui said.

"They have done matches like this in the past solely for charity purposes. But for this political situation, this is the first time they have done this. It has made for a very unique situation."

Because of its historical importance, Fui said the Handover of Hong Kong to China was an event that FIFA knew it couldn't miss.

"This is one of the biggest times in history," he said.

"I think FIFA was doing us a big favor by allowing the FIFA stars to come and play."

But it is not just the major moneymakers who make soccer what it is in Hong Kong. Fui admits it is the children who are big contributors to the sport's year-after-year success.

"The children who go to school, all they play is football," he said.

"Hong Kong has been ruled by the British for many years, and football has always been a popular sport with the children."

Even though the Union Jack of Great Britain may not wave upon the flagpoles any longer, one characteristic of British rule that may stand the test of time with the people of Hong Kong is its love of football.

"We especially get exposed through television," Fui said. "Hong Kong is very lucky. You can see English, French, German, Spanish, and South American football. Any kind of football can be seen here on television or read in the papers. I think anywhere where you can see so much football on television, from so many different countries, that means something."

Despite his loyalty to his homeland teams, Fui admits European squads have a slight advantage over their Asian foes.

"I think physically, the Hong Kong players are handicapped," he said. "They are not that tall, and when it comes to physical fitness, I think the European player is stronger. In that



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Because of the lack of grass or natural surfaces, residents of Hong Kong resort to playing the game on pitches of concrete.

sense, Hong Kong is not that competitive."

But when it comes to ballhandling, knocking a good through ball, or burying a mid-volley, Fui said the Hong Kong player has proven that they can battle with the best.

"Skill wise, I think the Hong Kong player is just as good as any other player in the world," he said.

Like the children who make soccer what it is today, Fui was also enjoying the game's delights as young schoolboy more than 40 years ago.

"I stayed in Argentina where they are crazy about football," he said. □



RICK ROGERS/The Chart

Members of the FIFA and Asian All-Stars gather after the conclusion of the Reunification Cup on July 3. The FIFA All-Stars won the game 5-3.

